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TOWN HALLS RAKE IN £6M FROM 'CASH COW' DRIVERS

MOTORISTS' groups have accused councils of using motorists as a "cash cow" after town halls raked in more than £6 million in parking fines over the past year.

Findings published by the TaxPayers' Alliance and the Drivers' Alliance showed the total collected by Kent's 12 district and borough councils, and Medway, in 2008-09 was £6,399,532.

The fines are levied for people parking illegally, such as on double yellow lines, and drivers who overstay on parking meters.

Fines range from £50-70 and are halved if drivers pay up within two weeks.

Despite this being £900,999 less than the previous year, representatives from driving groups slammed the authorities for using motorists as a "money-making scheme" through on-street and off-street parking enforcement.

Ian Taylor, spokesman for the Association of British Drivers in Kent, said councils are

By **MARIJKE COX**

using the county's motorists as a cash cow.

"They've had the sense not to push it further in the recession and we're thankful that some councils have frozen charges and offered free parking in some areas. But local authorities should not use fines to make money.

"We know they are worried about government grants being cut and so they are obviously concerned about funding, but at the same time they can't rely on motorists to bring money in.

"We understand people can't just park where they like and block roads and entrances, there has to be a penalty for that – I personally think perhaps the police should enforce it.

"But councils use these penalties as part of their crusade to curtail car use and bring in funds. They estimate how much they will make each year out of penalty charge notices and use it as part of their budget.

"If everyone became a law-abiding citizen I wonder what this would do to their finances."

Mr Taylor said part of the problem is the high charges councils levy in car parks across the county.

"In some cases it's cheaper to park in commercial car parks," he said. "I live in Dover and the car park behind the Charlton Centre is commercially run and charges are almost half the price of the council-run car parks."

Councils say the cash raised from fines is used to pay for parking services.

Figures showed Maidstone, Medway Canterbury and Tunbridge Wells councils brought in the most money from parking penalties.

However, Maidstone, Medway and Tunbridge Wells have seen a drop in the number of fines issued in the past year. But Canterbury City Council has risen by £18,098.

Parking services manager Clive Metcalfe denied that Canterbury council was using

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO



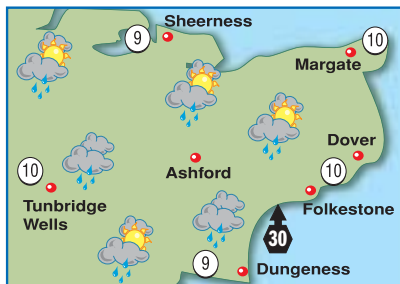
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star casts
her spell at
university**

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Kent today



TODAY: Very unsettled with largely cloudy skies and showers. There will be strengthening southerly winds. Max temp 7-10C (45-50F).

TONIGHT: Variable amounts of cloud and heavy showers. Strong southerly winds easing later. Min temp 4-7C (39-45F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	sleet	5	41	London	showers	9	48
Belfast	drizzle	6	43	Liverpool	showers	7	45
Birmingham	showers	6	43	Manchester	rain	6	43
B' mouth	showers	10	50	Newcastle	showers	7	45
Bristol	rain	9	48	Norwich	showers	10	50
Cardiff	rain	7	45	Oxford	showers	7	45
Cork	fair	6	43	Southsea	showers	10	50
Edinburgh	rain	6	43	S'hampton	showers	9	48
Glasgow	cloudy	6	43	Southport	showers	7	45
Isle of Man	showers	8	46	Swansea	showers	7	45
Leeds	sleet	4	39	Torquay	showers	8	46

Sun & moon

Sunrise	7.37am	Sunset	3.50pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	1.43pm	Moonset	4.11am	3.50pm to 7.38am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
	ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)	
Dover	08.12	5.9	20.40	5.9	08.54	6.2	21.22	6.2
Margate	09.02	4.2	21.42	4.3	09.51	4.3	22.27	4.4
St Mary's	01.54	4.8	14.14	5.0	02.39	5.1	14.59	5.2

Week ahead

monday Dull and wet. max 8C min 2C	thursday Rain clearing. max 11C min 5C
tuesday Mainly fine. max 6C min 3C	friday Dry and fine. max 10C min 6C
wednesday Breezy and wet. max 10C min 7C	saturday Dull. Rain. max 10C min 5C

- **EDITOR:** Ian Patel
- **ADDRESS:** Apple Barn, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SR.
- **WEBSITE:** www.kentnews.co.uk
- **MOBILE WAP SERVICE:** www.kentnews.co.uk/mobile
- **TELEPHONE:** 01303 817000
- **FAX (ADVERTISING):** 01303 817001
- **FAX (EDITORIAL):** 01303 817002

- **EMAIL:**
EDITORIAL: editorial@kosmedia.co.uk
ADVERTISING: sales@kosmedia.co.uk

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Actress backs university's fight to help save wildlife

AWARD-winning actress Imelda Staunton has paid a visit to the University of Kent to celebrate the 20th anniversary of a wildlife institute, *writes Marijke Cox*.

The British star, who is famous for her many roles on stage and screen including Dolores Umbridge in the Harry Potter films, compered an evening of entertainment with her actor husband Jim Carter.

The pair are known for their love of wildlife and jumped at the chance of being involved with the celebrations for the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE).

DICE was founded in 1989 by Professor Ian Swingfield OBE at the University of Kent and named after naturalist and TV presenter Gerald Durrell.

It offers students courses in conservation and biodiversity and gives them the chance to carry out research internationally.

Durrell was a much-celebrated conservationist, best remembered for his work with wildlife and his books about his findings.

Staunton played his mother in the 1995



FAMILY AFFAIR: Stars Staunton and Carter

BBC film *My Family and Other Animals*, based on the autobiography of Durrell.

This is where her interest in wildlife began. Staunton said: "Playing Gerry's mother, I couldn't help but catch the bug, so to speak, for his passion for wildlife. Jim and I are very much into wildlife and used to run safaris in our garden for my daughter and her primary school class. These days children are distracted by other things, like computer games, but it's very important for them to see what else is around them."

"I was brought up in the city, but I've always

believed that the ideal childhood would be to grow up with wildlife around you."

Staunton praised the work of DICE and what the institute had achieved over 20 years. "It was wonderful to be part of the celebrations," she added.

Her husband, known for his roles in *The Golden Compass* and *Shakespeare in Love*, said the couple were keen to support DICE.

"It's the ultimate version of the 'don't give a man a loaf of bread, teach him to bake' adage," said Carter.

"These people get a world-class postgraduate education at DICE and then return to the four corners of the globe to save species and do good. It's inspiring stuff."

Around 250 people attended the celebrations on Tuesday night.

Douglas MacMillan, professor in conservation and applied resource economics at DICE, stressed this week that the UK needs to align itself with other European countries and develop a national strategy for managing wildlife.

He estimated that a policy to tackle the rising wildlife population would bring £100 million into remote rural areas, creating jobs in hard-pressed communities.

'It's not a money spinner' say councils

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

motorists to make money. "It is grossly inaccurate to suggest that issuing of penalty charge notices is designed for this purpose," he said.

"Penalty charge notices the council distribute have fallen since the council took over the service in 2000, along with the number of staff engaged in the process. They are only issued when a contravention of regulations occur."

He said money collected from on-street parking fines contributed to the cost of providing the parking service, which is carried out on behalf of Kent County Council.

He added: "Income from off-street parking fines is controlled and managed by the city council and goes towards its general revenue account. It's not a money spinner."

A spokesman from Sevenoaks District Council, where figures showed a rise of £19,507 in fines since last year, said they are issued to people who have chosen to park illegally.

"Local councils, business groups and residents have told us the additional enforcement has drastically improved parking problems in their communities," he said.

He added: "It is difficult to compare income between 2007-08 and 2008-09, as the pricing structure for penalty charge notices was significantly altered by central government during this period. The cost for less serious offences

COUNCIL PARKING PENALTIES YEAR ON YEAR

COUNCIL	FINES 07/08 (£)	FINES 08/09 (£)
Ashford	348,516	271,800
Dartford	267,795	274,139
Dover	487,164	390,884
Canterbury	645,264	663,362
Gravesend	439,002	402,613
Maidstone	960,851	859,619
Medway	1,195,272	1,048,704
Sevenoaks	238,192	257,699
Shepway	369,037	451,668
Swale	307,565	256,631
Thanet	431,230	318,199
Tonbridge & Malling	385,438	261,526
Tunbridge Wells	1,225,205	942,688
TOTAL	£7,300,531	£6,399,532

was reduced, while the cost of more serious contraventions saw an increase. The income generated by penalty charge notices helps to pay towards the council's parking services."

These include payments for civil enforcement officers and putting restrictions and parking bays in place.

But Peter Roberts, chief executive of the Drivers' Alliance, insists parking enforcement across the UK has become a massive money-making industry.

"We are seeing unscrupulous and target-driven enforcement of parking laws where the penalties far outweigh the offence," he said.

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Customers told to 'get down' by marksmen



By **JENNY ARMSTRONG**

jenny.armstrong@kosmedia.co.uk

POLICE were last night still questioning the man suspected of murder who officers shot after he terrorised shoppers and motorists by brandishing a pistol.

A police marksman floored the man in the middle of Morrisons supermarket in Canterbury with a single shot as shoppers were told to "get down".

Police have released a picture of the weapon lying in the supermarket aisle where he was finally stopped on Thursday evening.

As Kent on Sunday went to press detectives were investigating the suspected murder of a woman in a bed and breakfast hostel in the Wincheap area less than half a mile away.

Though police refused to confirm any details of the woman until her relatives had been informed, it is understood she lived with the gunman.

Police controllers ordered in armed response units to the city after dozens of 999 calls from shoppers and motorists on the main A28 into the city.

Andy Mitchell, who works in a Threshers off-licence in Wincheap Road, between Morrisons and the hostel in Victoria Road, saw the man minutes before he was shot.

Mr Mitchell said: "He was standing in the middle of the road shouting and stopping the traffic both ways. I didn't know what he was saying because it was foreign – it sounded eastern European to me.

"I took one look at the gun, saw that it was real and locked myself in here with the two people who came in here, then called the police. The man looked pretty out of it. He gave me the impression he was drunk. He didn't look in a good state, mentally."

Forensic

But armed police were already on their way and the gunman was cornered in Morrisons supermarket, situated at the traffic lights where the A2 runs under the A28.

Supermarket workers inside told how the man was shouting and waving the pistol around. It was just after 8.30pm.

One shopper described how she was aware of armed police officers in black clothing ordering people to "get down".

A single shot brought the man's 15-minute rampage to an end. Then armed officers moved in, disarmed him before medics, accompanied by armed officers, took him to hospital. He was treated for a bullet wound to the arm.

His weapon was a gun firing ball-bearings, which can owned without a licence.

Last night police were still piecing together the exact chain of events, but it is understood the gunman, who is 32, had lived with the woman in the Ambassador Guest House in Victoria Road, Wincheap.

Neighbours say the house is often used for short-term housing and people rarely stay more than a couple of weeks.

Police forensic experts seemed to be concentrating on a top-floor room, but people coming and going from the house yesterday claimed they did not know the couple.

Detectives were refusing to say how the woman may have died, revealing only that it was being treated as murder.

Francesca Brisk, who lives opposite the house where the dead woman was found,

Dead woman is found after gunman shot in Morrisons

Pictures: JENNY ARMSTRONG



FATAL: The house where the body was found (above), and the supermarket after the shooting



said: "There was a lot of banging and crashing at about midnight [on Thursday]. Someone rang on the doorbell at 2am, but I locked myself in my room.

"This happening is really scary. I walk around these streets by myself late at night all the time.

"There are loads of guys and girls coming in and out of that house all the time. All I know is that they all look eastern European.

"A couple of days ago my housemate saw a bloke go over, draw the curtains and come out with a black eye. There are always people up there with the curtains drawn, looking shady."

The Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) was informed immediately of the shooting, in accordance with national policy.

But within hours the IPCC was satisfied that Kent Police Professional Standards Department could continue the investigation at a local level.

A police spokesman said that its armed officers are trained "to shoot to neutralise the threat" in an armed incident. This appeared to confirm the gunman was lucky rather than deliberately injured.

The store was reopened to customers by Friday morning.

Murder pair jailed

TWO Ashford killers have been jailed for the murder of a 20-year-old student.

Zion Covey, 21, of Lynsted Close, and Gareth Powell, 20, of Bensted, were found guilty of the murder of Ben Neilson, also from Ashford, and sentenced at Maidstone Crown Court on Friday.

Covey was jailed for a minimum of 13 years and Powell a minimum of 12 years.

Mr Neilson, who was described as a "loving and much-loved son, brother and friend" by his family, died of fatal brain injuries in April, six days after he was attacked by the pair in Lower High Street.

Piece of the action

THE Canterbury Cathedral Appeal has joined forces with Kent-based Mosaic Appeals to launch a new fundraiser where web-surfers can sponsor virtual fragments of one of the cathedral's stained glass windows.

To support the £50 million campaign go to www.savecanterburycathedral.com and pay £10 to sponsor your own part of the South Oculus Window.

A faded-out image of the window is on the website, but it is slowly being revealed as tiles are sponsored.

To see this clip search 'Marlowe' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



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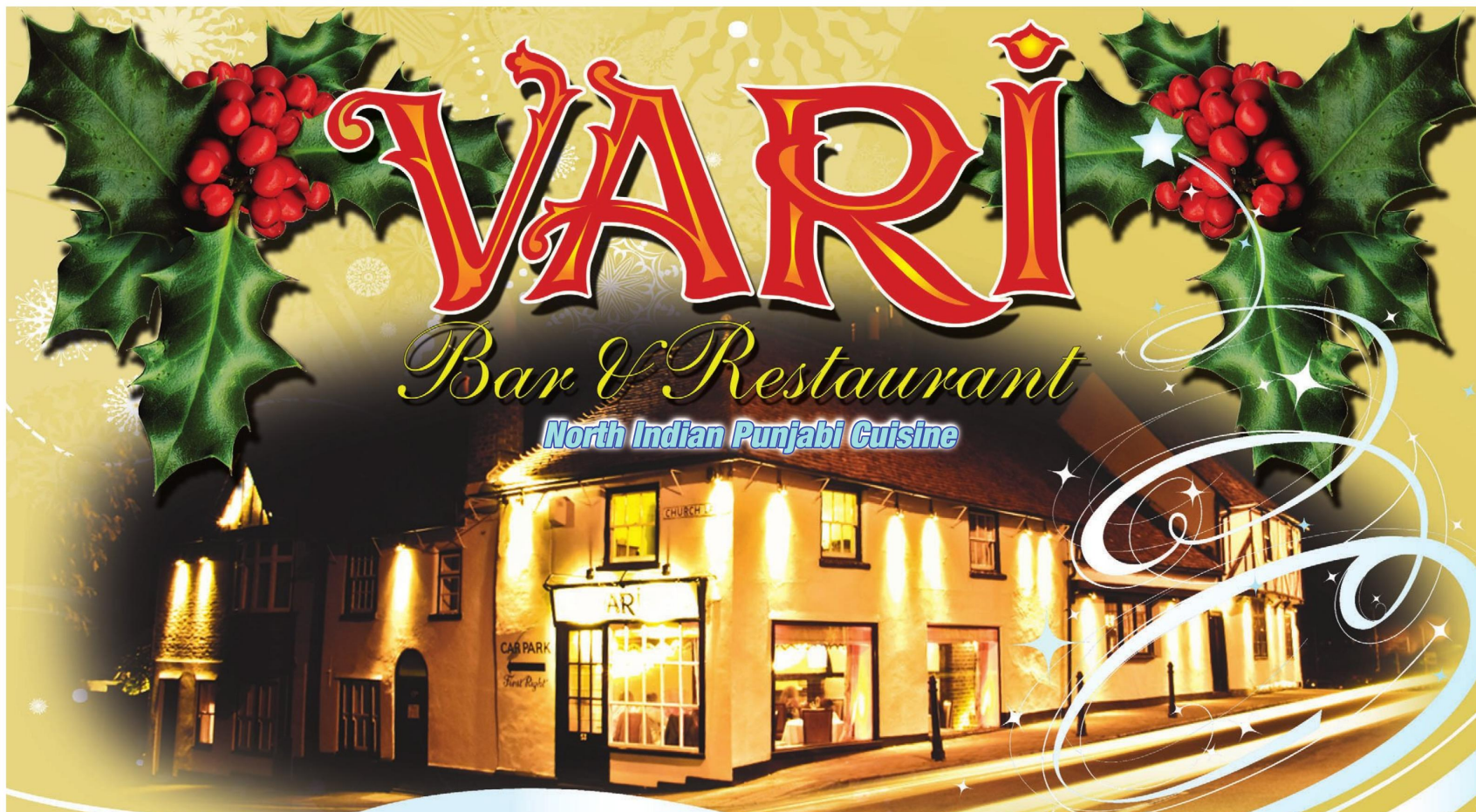
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Real grind for £105m offshore project

Ill wind blows at turbine site

A MULTI-million pound wind farm built off the Kent coast to provide energy for 100,000 homes has suffered repeated mechanical problems in the four years since it was built, writes *Marijke Cox*.

The Kentish Flats Offshore Wind Farm, which provides power to houses in Whitstable, Herne Bay and Canterbury, has undergone numerous upgrades to try and deal with setbacks that have caused a reduction in the amount of energy produced.

Gearboxes in all 30 turbines had to be replaced in 2006 and 2007, but just a year later 20 were changed again with another 10 due for replacement in 2010.

The gearboxes are vital for transferring power from the blades to the generator and are monitored by Vestas, a Danish producer of turbines.

A spokesperson at Vattenfall Wind Power, the Swedish owner of the wind farm, said despite the "teething problems" it is still one of the most efficient offshore farms in the world.

The company was unable to reveal the amount of money spent on fixing the turbines or the amount lost through the reduction in energy.

The £105 million wind farm, which is located 8.5km north of Herne Bay in the Thames Estuary, was the first to be built in the South East and the turbines are 140m-high – as tall as the London Eye.

The Thames Estuary was picked because of its shallow waters and windy weather, making it a perfect site for wind technology.

Bosses at Vattenfall are hoping to learn lessons from the repeated problems and use this knowledge in the development of the £780m Thanet Offshore Wind Farm.

The project, which began earlier this year, will see 100 wind turbines located 12km off Foreness Point in Ramsgate and will generate electricity for 240,000 homes. Work is due to be completed in 2010.

A spokesperson at Vattenfall said: "These lessons are being applied to our Thanet scheme, which is currently being built off Ramsgate."

The Kentish Flats wind farm will continue to be monitored by Vestas to ensure problems are overcome. Bosses have stressed that setbacks would not stop further developments of wind farms.

BREAKDOWN:
Gearbox problems have beset the offshore wind farm during the last few years



To see this search 'Kentish Flats' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



See the Kentish Flats wind farm situated off Whitstable's coast

Photographer is waiting for apology over snappy arrest

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

Picture: ALEX TURNER



A KEEN amateur photographer who was arrested after taking a picture of a police officer believes he is due to receive an apology – but the force said it is still looking into the incident.

Officers arrested Alex Turner outside Snappy Snaps, in High Street, Chatham, and told him he was suspected of being a terrorist.

He had been taking shots of the area when police approached him and demanded to know what he was doing with a camera, following a complaint from two men who said they were with Medway Council.

The officers arrested Mr Turner on July 8, when he objected to the line of questioning and took a picture of a female Police Community Support Officer.

With dozens of stunned shoppers around, he was bundled away along the High Street to a waiting police van and was placed in the rear and told he was being held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2000.

'De-arrested'

At the time, he said: "As I was arrested I was handcuffed. I asked why she had arrested me. She stated because I had taken a photograph of her and that she considered this to be an unlawful obstruction. After a short time I was led up the High Street and detained in a police van for around 20 minutes."

More officers, this time in plain clothes arrived, and after a discussion between the officers, Mr Turner was 'de-arrested' and told he was free to go.

He said the female officer said she was "intimidated" by Mr Turner's size – he is 5ft 11in and weighs about 12-stone.

INCRIMINATING: Shot that got Alex arrested

But the incident left him shocked and angry that something like that could happen on Britain's streets.

He said: "It left me upset, embarrassed and traumatised."

He lodged an official complaint with the force's Professional Standards Department, and now Mr Turner claims he has been told he is to get a formal apology.

On his online blog, Mr Turner said his wife had received a call from police.

He wrote: "They were ringing to let me know that my complaint has been upheld. The only details I have right now is the phrase 'unlawful arrest' and that they want to say sorry."

He did take the case to the Independent Police Complaints Commission, which decided the matter should be dealt with internally by Kent Police.

But it seems far from over.

A spokesman for Medway police said: "Kent Police can confirm that Mr Turner has been updated on the internal investigation."

"The investigation is on-going with Kent Police's Professional Standards Department and it would not be appropriate to comment at this time."

Hospital for girl stabbed in back

A TEENAGE girl was stabbed in the back on her way home from school.

Jade Sullivan, 14, was attacked as she walked home from the Strood Academy in Carnation Road on Wednesday.

The teenager was treated by paramedics at the scene shortly after 3pm and taken to Medway Maritime Hospital for treatment.

A police spokesman said the girl's injuries sustained in the "single puncture wound".

Chief Supt Steve Corbishley said: "Teenager explained she felt a sharp pain in her back, but is unable to say what this was caused by."

Christmas Classic FM at cathedral

CLASSIC FM is hosting its annual Christmas concert at Rochester Cathedral next month. The event is being held on December 16, at 7pm.

As part of the concert, which is being led by the Choir of Rochester Cathedral, Classic FM presenter and composer Howard Goodall will conduct the Enchanted Voices choir. Classic FM presenter Jamie Crick will host the evening and it will be broadcast on the radio station on December 23.

Tickets are priced between £5 and £25 and are available by calling 0871 230 1104 or visiting www.classicfm.com/events.

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Eastern and Coastal Kent

By **MARIJKE COX**

marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

FORMER England cricket captain Michael Vaughan has combined his love of sport and art by creating a unique collection of work that is on display at Bluewater.

But unlike most other artists, the 35-year-old Ashes winner produced his art by ditching the conventional paintbrush and picking up a bat and ball.

Vaughan calls the unusual technique 'art-balling' and he bowls or bats a paint-covered cricket ball – just as he would on the pitch – onto a canvas placed on the floor or wall.

The style, known as abstract expressionism or action painting, was popular between the 1940s and 1960s and made famous by artist Jackson Pollock, who broke with tradition and instead of using a brush, let paint drip onto a canvas.

Vaughan – who retired from first-class cricket in June – said his paintings capture defining moments in his career and the drama of the much-loved sport.

"At first it was a bit of fun," he told Kent on Sunday. "But the more I got into it, the more I started to take it seriously."

"I began collecting contemporary art about four years ago and then about 12 months ago one of my friends told me about Martina Navratilova who was using her tennis balls and racket to paint."

Vaughan decided to do the same and escaped to a warehouse in Yorkshire shortly after retirement to create his masterpieces.

His work has already caught the eye of industry experts who have billed it as "Damien Hurst meets Jackson Pollock".

Vaughan said: "Art really comes down to opinion. People need to see it for themselves, so they should come along and have a look."

"The paintings show defining moments in my career. One is the moment we won the Ashes in 2005 and I held the trophy above my head with all the confetti coming down."

"But it's not all about the good times – I've included bad moments and this can be seen through the darker colours."

"The use of colours was very instinctive, I would decide just before I started painting how I would use them."

"Doing this has been really good fun, although the paintings didn't always come out as I'd like them to the first time around."

Vaughan has even managed to get some of

Different strokes



BOWLED OVER: One of the world's finest batsmen, Michael Vaughan uses bat and ball to create his art, including Day Night (top) and Power Play (left)

his former team mates involved in his love of art, with Andrew Strauss, Stuart Broad and Andrew Flintoff creating work using the art-balling technique.

Disappointed

He added: "I'm also hoping to get in touch with footballers and rugby players to do the same kind of thing."

Vaughan, who led the England team to victory in a record 26 tests between 2003 and

2008 – was ranked best batsman in the world after the 2002-03 Ashes. He announced his retirement in June, 2009, and Andrew Strauss took over as captain.

The team is currently in South Africa for the one-day international series, where Kent cricketer Joe Denly was recently dropped as opening batsman so team-mate Jonathan Trott could be promoted to opener.

Vaughan said: "Joe will be disappointed, but this is his first international cricket tour

so he'll be enjoying being in the England team. When you first come into the international team you need a defining moment to really get yourself noticed."

"He's developing nicely so this day will definitely come. He's got all the attributes needed to be successful."

To see Vaughan's four limited edition prints go to Castle Galleries in Bluewater.

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POLITICS should be part of the schools national curriculum, according to the leader of the Kent Youth County Council, *writes Marijke Cox.*

Rhys George, 18, told Kent on Sunday that education was key for young people to have a better understanding of the political system.

"We are the next generation," he said.

"It's so important that young people understand what's going on so they have a voice.

"The youth council has been pushing for political education to be on the syllabus at school for Year Seven pupils and upwards. We've got government ministers' support and have been speaking to people to see what we can do."

His comments came as the newly elected members of the youth council were announced yesterday, naming the young people who will represent youngsters across Kent.

There were 106 candidates battling it out for the 48 seats that were up for grabs and more than 30,000 people were expected to vote. Last year, around 30,000 people turned out to the polling stations, but this year, with the highest number of candidates standing ever, it was predicted to be even more.

There were four seats available to represent each of the 12 district or borough councils and candidates could stand for election in the area they live or where they go to school or college.

The youth council is made up of 48 elected members aged between 11 and 18-years-old, who meet 10 times a year in the council chambers at County Hall in Maidstone.

Committee meetings are also held throughout the year to discuss ongoing campaigns and issues.

They work closely with officers and members of Kent County Council, letting them know about

Understanding politics vital for next generation



COUNCIL LEADER: Rhys George

the concerns of the county's young people.

Members of the youth council also make up the UK Youth Parliament to take county matters to the national forum.

Already they have brought in a travel scheme called the Freedom

Bus Pass which provides unlimited travel for young people in Kent for one payment per year of £50.

It proved so successful in east Kent it was rolled out across the whole of the county last year.

Rhys said: "We work closely with members of KCC and leader Paul Carter who helps us with our aims. The youth council is apolitical though so we try and avoid getting too deep into politics when making decisions."

Dynamics

From next year, the youth council will also have more control over its own budget.

Currently, members are invited by different projects and budget holders within KCC to represent the views of young people and recommend how money should be spent. But they recently advised on KCC's overall budget which will be decided next February and the youth members' views will be presented as part of that decision-making process.

Rhys said he is excited about the year ahead.

"I was elected a year ago and it's been really good fun," he said.

"I'm looking forward to seeing some new faces – it will change the dynamics of the group. The new members will be really eager to go out and do things straight away."

Rhys, from the Isle of Sheppey, said he always had an interest in politics, thanks to his family.

"I was quite lucky they made sure I understood politics and what was going on in the country," he said.

"But not everyone has this. This is why we're pushing for political education at school.

"We're also trying to get the voting age lowered to 16 so young people have more of a voice."

The Isle of Sheppey Academy pupil said one of his personal aims is to raise cultural awareness across the county by organising festivals and other events.

"I would encourage anyone to get involved," he said.

Our 'Enry loves to be beside the seaside in Kent

BOXING legend Sir Henry Cooper has named Margate as his favourite holiday destination in the country, as part of a celebrity vote to discover the best of British.

The Great British Vote sees household names, from actors to artists, and sports stars to singers, select their favourites in 12 categories, including holiday destination, sporting event, invention and work of art.

Now it's the turn of the public to go to the polls.

Using www.greatbritishlife.co.uk people will be able to cast their votes, and view the choices of the stars.

Sir Henry, who put Cassius Clay on the canvas in 1963 at Wembley Stadium before eventually losing the fight, said: "I had an aunt and uncle who had a house in Margate during the war years where we always holidayed, so that holds a special place in my memory."

Researchers find 23 sleeping rough

SOME 23 people are sleeping rough in the major towns of Kent, according to researchers who said they found evidence another 31 are also living on the streets.

More than 250 volunteers for homeless charity Porchlight scoured streets in search of cases of people with nowhere else to go.

The figures may seem low, but the charity points out many who appear homeless manage to secure some sort of overnight shelter.

Medway was highest with five sleeping rough, with evidence found of another five. Only Dartford and Tonbridge had none.

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PC crackers make millions

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

CHRISTMAS crackers can be real jokes when it comes to creating festive amusement round the dinner table, now one company has taken the issue by the reindeer horns and gone all PC.

But that doesn't mean the groan factor has been scrapped – far from it. Swantex boss David Byk said that is absolutely vital.

He said: "That doesn't mean we want to upset anyone with something that is just not that funny.

"So mother-in-law jokes are out, and in come a fresh new lot that will at least make you groan and sometimes laugh."

The managing director said business is booming for the company, based in Swanley, with cracker orders up 21 per cent on last year to more than 24 million, and wrapping paper demand is up by 18 per cent.

He said: "Christmas is a time when we don't want to have any more problems with the family than there already might be.

"Insulting the mother-in-law or getting the little kiddie asking awkward questions, doesn't help with having a nice Christmas meal.

"That is important to us. We just want to make sure everyone just has a real old fashioned belly laugh. It's all about keeping it simple.

"Getting a good groan is just as good. That is where we need to be and that's where we work hardest.

"This humour is not going to be cutting edge, it's not going to be done by a professional stand-up comedian. It does have to be in line with Christmas cracker jokes and they are meant to be a bit poor.

"We write them down through the year, listen out for them, and we try to make a few Christmas related so they are topical."

But the little slip of paper has moved on from the old days.

Mr Byk said: "Now we have charades on them, we have questions and ice-breakers, which are little lines you can ask to spark off a new off-beat conversation which helps at some of the more stuffy dinner parties we sometimes end up at or if you are with someone you don't know.

"These have gone down really well."



COMEDY GENIUS: David Byk is having a laugh with his new politically correct jokes

He said the family-run company is doing well despite the recession.

Mr Byk said: "Sales are doing great. We have worked really hard to get new contracts, our Far East office is doing well and we are now supplying in Australia, which we haven't done before.

"We do what we do really well, and that helps.

"Yes, there is a recession on and prices are harder, which makes margins difficult, but we are pleased with where we are going."

Swantex started in 1892 and has just bought another napkin business and they now employ 250 people, making it Britain's biggest cracker business.

He said: "We have made a lot of investment in automatic machinery and people and we are going well."

Their main products are napkins and tableware, but crackers account for £26

million on their balance sheets.

Wrapping paper orders are up to 35 million metres, almost enough to go round the world.

The old

What's green and turns red at the flick of a button?

A frog in a liquidiser

What do Santa's reindeer put on a Christmas tree?

Horn-aments

What do you call a deer with no eyes? No idea

The new

What do angry mice send each other at Christmas?

Cross mouse cards

What lies in a pram and wobbles? A jelly baby

What do you get when you cross a hen with a clock?

An alarm cluck

■ **GETTING** caught short when looking to spend a penny in Maidstone should be a rare thing after the council announced a new scheme to make more loos available for public use.

Shops, pubs and cafés say they will open their toilet facilities for everyone to use. The businesses have joined the community toilet scheme, which means visitors to the town can use them free of charge and without having to make a purchase.

Participating shops will display a distinctive blue and orange sticker in their window. They include Marks & Spencer, Society Rooms, McDonalds in Week Street, Ethos, Royal Albion pub, Fortify Café, The Munch House, Tommy's Café, as well as the shopping centres – Fremlin Walk, Mall Chequers, Royal Star Arcade, Broadway Shopping Centre and Market Buildings. Even Maidstone Library has joined in.

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JOB FRONT: The gallery is to open in 2011

Recruiting begins at Turner gallery with six key roles

By **TOM BETTS**

tom.betts@kosmedia.co.uk

THE first jobs at Margate's Turner Contemporary gallery are advertised this weekend, with six key posts on offer.

The gallery is scheduled to open in 2011, and staff will be required to do everything from running the coffee shop to looking after the collections.

The highest-paid of the roles is that of development manager, with a salary of £36,000 a year. A sales and marketing manager will earn £34,000 and so will the finance manager's post. A learning officer, a curator of public programmes and the curator will each earn £25,000.

The closing date for all six job applications is Wednesday, December 16, with interviews in January.

The roles will be paid for by the Turner Contemporary Trust, set up by Kent County Council and Arts Council England.

Paul Gray, head of operations and resource, said: "These are the first senior level roles we are recruiting for as part of the new trust, going across the curatorial, learning and operations functions part of the organisation."

"I think they will be very sought-after jobs."

"Hopefully there will be people within Kent

who will grab the opportunity, but I feel that this has the capacity to attract people from anywhere. It will be a world-class gallery so we need world-class people."

Mr Gray said the jobs had been advertised on schedule with the recruitment plan and another raft of job recruitment could take place around April next year.

The David Chipperfield-designed gallery is still being built at the Rendezvous site near the Margate harbour arm.

A topping out ceremony is being held at the site on Tuesday, December 1, to mark the highest point of construction.

Mr Gray said: "The gallery is really taking shape and I think the advertisements will be a big step toward making the project seem even more real. It will also be another nail in the coffin of all the doubters who said that it would never happen."

• Turn to the recruitment section for more details on the Turner jobs.

People will be able to apply online at www.turnercontemporary.org, where there is more information on each post.

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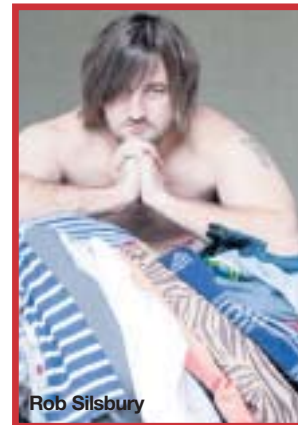
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Pictures: JASON TODD



Barry Phillips



Rob Silsbury

SMILE: The dads bared all to produce the calendar with the money going towards helping the children's Padua Ward in Ashford hospital

Dads turn pin-ups to help raise funds for children's ward

A GROUP of brave dads have stripped off for a new calendar to raise money for equipment at a hospital's children's ward.

And despite being left a little red-faced, the new pin-ups admitted to enjoying every minute and hope people will rush out to buy it.

Funds raised through sales will go to the Scarlett MacKinnon Endowment Initiative (SMEI) – a charity that raises money for the Padua Ward for children at Ashford's William Harvey Hospital.

It was co-founded by Kirsty MacKinnon, whose three-year-old daughter Scarlett suffers from neurological life-limiting disorder severe myoclonic epilepsy of infancy (SMEI). Mrs MacKinnon was impressed with the 2010 calendar.

She said: "All the dads have been fantastic and look very professional in their photos."

"The photographer Jason Todd

By **MARIJKE COX**

very kindly donated his services too, which means the vast majority of the money from the calendar sales will go straight to the charity."

SMEI has already raised £50,000 through a number of events, which has paid for 12 beds for parents who have sick children on the ward, 10 saturation monitors, eight hot and cold bottle sterilisers, and two water coolers for patients.

Countless thermometers, feeding spoons and treats have also been bought with the money raised.

Underpants

Mrs MacKinnon said: "My daughter Scarlett is among hundreds of children treated every year on the Padua Ward and although the nurses and medical staff do an amazing job, it is the unfortunate reality the ward is only essentially equipped to treat our children."

"We aim to help fill in some of the

gaps by helping make the environment as child and parent-friendly as possible, as well as ensuring the medical team has all the equipment it needs, when it needs it."

The new calendar features the 11 dads in their working environments, stripped down to their underpants.

Mr January, also known as Miles MacKinnon – Scarlett's father – hopes it will raise enough money to go towards buying syringe drivers, saturation monitors, which measure oxygen levels and heart rate, plus lockable units for each bed cubicle.

He said: "Although we were all a little embarrassed at the beginning of the photo shoot, all the dads featured in the calendar have young children."

"Most of us have had first-hand experience of the Padua Ward and the sterling efforts of the doctors and medical staff who do a fantastic job under the very difficult conditions."

To buy a calendar, priced at £10 plus £1 for postage and packaging, visit www.smeicharity.co.uk.

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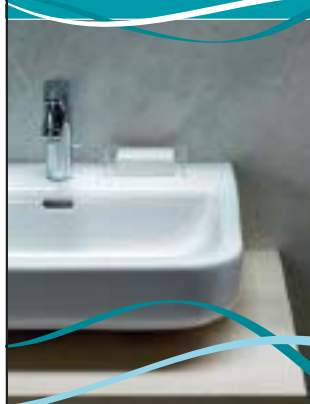
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Callous theft after friend's good deed

RAT Tom England betrayed a friend by stealing his identity to hire posh cars, a court was told.

England, 41, of Royal Road, Ramsgate stayed with a friend when his own home was condemned, Margate magistrates heard.

He admitted two charges of making false representations to hire cars and asked for five other offences to be taken into consideration.

Ian Callaway, prosecuting, said England stayed at his friend's house for a month. He found his Visa card and used the number to hire vehicles from Pierpoint and Avis.

England even used the card to pay a £70 parking fine.

Mr Callaway said: "He repaid kindness by stealing his friends money."

Lucy Welsh, defending, said the fraud was discovered when England gave himself up to police. The case was adjourned until December 8.

NO-ONE likes a love rat, so one woman has decided they should be 'outed' on a website to protect others from their unfaithfulness, *writes Chris Murphy.*

Sally Cornock claims she knows all about the rats who lie and cheat, making life miserable for everyone else around them.

She said her former lover was unfaithful to her – with a staggering 53 other women. The couple had met on an internet dating site.

The 42-year-old from Deal admits that was hard to live with, but she wasn't quite prepared for the string of love rats she went on to meet.

So she decided it was time for women – and men for that matter – to know if the person they are dating is a love rat.

She launched loveratsinc, a website that lets 'victims' list details of what went wrong in their relationship with a love rat.

About the only thing left off the personal

Revenge a dish best served on loveratsinc.com

details of the 'rat' is their surname and full address. And they have the right of reply on the website, too.

People using the site can rate their rat on

sex, honesty, commitment, and hygiene, plus detail how it all fell apart.

One 'rat' is a 32-year-old father-of-two from Herne Bay. He pulls in zero ratings for honesty and commitment, and is low on the sex, too.

He is accused of being violent and unfaithful. His 'victim' writes: "No, you are not paranoid – everyone does hate you."

Another alleged rat is a 39-year-old woman from Bromley. Her ratings are all high and her victim said they had been going steady for "years" before he found out she was not actually single.

Heartache

The ex-partner of a 31-year-old woman from Whitstable, warns others that she can't be honest or stick to commitment, but the sex was great.

He said she was "pretty as a picture – I wish I'd hung you".

Ms Cornock said: "Talking to other women made me realise I wasn't the only one who wished I'd been able to steer clear of heartache by checking blokes out before I met them. I wanted to create a place where singles could do that."

"There's a small charge of £1.50 to post a story and you can then add your own com-



ments and email the other people who have dated them.

"Love rats even have the right to reply if they are brave enough."

Ms Cornock knows there are plenty of philanderers still out there, but despite everything she remains optimistic that one day she'll find her Mr Right among all the wrongs.

She said: "I know there are decent men left out there and they're not all bad. Hopefully, one day I'll find the man of my dreams."

She said her man never let his mobile, set on silent, out of his sight and even slept with it under his pillow, and kept it in his dressing gown while in the shower.

"But he eventually slipped up and Ms Cornock checked it and was horrified at what she found."

The texts gave it away. One said: "Monday was great. Can't wait to do it again", and another "looking forward to tomorrow night".

Instead of collapsing in floods of tears, she set about ringing each one to let them know what was going on.

All his women were carefully catalogued so he couldn't mix them up.

She then deleted everything and threw his stuff out the door along with the now useless phone.

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Corporal holding key to giving our troops a very Merry Christmas



WISH LIST: Cpl Ramm from Sheerness

SOLDIERS on the frontline in Afghanistan will have a Kent corporal to thank if they are lucky enough to go home for Christmas.

Corporal Fiona Ramm is a 33-year-old mum from Sheerness.

And it's her role at the Task Force Helmand HQ in Lashkar Gah, Helmand Province that means she is at the forefront of making the dream trip home away from the horrors of war a festive reality.

She is part of the Staff and Personnel Branch, and is responsible for booking all movements of British troops in and out of the British headquarters in Afghanistan.

She said: "It's quite a responsibility making sure the troops get home to see their loved ones. Everyone has their part to play out here and I know that by ensuring the men and women have one less thing to worry about I am helping them to focus on the job of soldiering."

Cpl Ramm, of 28 Engineer Regiment, is six weeks into her first operational tour and is following in the footsteps of her father who served with the same regiment.

She said: "While boarding school gave me a stable school life, I was a bit of a trouble-maker. Joining the Army in 1999, soon sorted me out."

Corp Ramm added: "I was ill twice at the beginning of the tour, but I am finding it easier now that I have settled into a routine."

"I work with a great bunch of people. The hours are long, but I find that keeping busy is helping time pass much more quickly."

"It's so important to get on well with the people that you are living and working with. I have been very lucky in that regard."

She knows how important her work is getting troops home in time for special occasions like Christmas as she is finding it hard being away from her own family.

With a note of sadness in her voice, she said: "I thoroughly enjoy my job here in Afghanistan, but I find it very difficult being away from my eight-year-old son Byron."

"He started boarding school in April and I know that he has had to be very brave."

"I couldn't be more proud of him."

"The Army gives us phone cards so we keep in contact with those at home."

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

"Most, if not all, of my minutes are used up speaking to Byron. This is a double-edged sword though. There is no better felling than hearing his voice, but if he gets upset then I get upset and vice versa. I get to go home for

two weeks in December which is great, however I have to take Byron for an operation on his ears. At least I'll get the chance to spoil him."

On returning from tour Cpl Ramm said: "I intend to stay in the Army for as long as I can and certainly while Byron is in full-time education as the Army pay towards his schooling."

"I only want the best for him."

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Foundation for a new life

By **ED HILL**

ed.hill@kosmedia.co.uk

THE Caldecott Foundation has for nearly 100 years cared for children who have suffered abuse or neglect.

It was founded by Leila Rendell in London and took its name from a famous illustrator of children's books whose pictures were used to decorate the nursery walls.

Many may think the future for children who have been in care is a bleak one, leading to a shambolic life, but one former resident of the



foundation in Smeeth, near Ashford, says nothing could be further from the truth.

Debbie Hale first went into the centre at the

age of seven in 1965 after her mother and father split up and she could not live with her new stepmother who treated her cruelly.

She did not know what lay ahead when she first went to the grand house that at that time housed the children.

She said: "I remember the first day clearly. I was terrified. I remember walking up the big steps and into the dining hall. There was a girl there, who was later to become my best friend, having a birthday party."

Debbie spent her childhood at the foundation, leaving at the age of 18. She says she has blocked out many of the negative memories of her childhood but her days at Caldecott where some of the happiest of her life.

She said: "I loved the place. I had so much fun as a child. We had the grounds and the house and were given the freedom to do many things. The staff never treated us badly and the memories of some of them still remain with me today."

She now works as a student support manager at a secondary school and says she thinks her background gives her a unique position to make a connection with teenagers.



SAFE HAVEN: Debbie Hale is grateful for the childhood she had living at the foundation

She said: "I think it was fate that led to me getting this job. I can make a connection with them and empathise with their feelings."

After years of building a life for herself, the mother-of-two says she is at a stage when she wants to return to Caldecott and help it in whatever way she can.

She said: "I really think that place gave me the resilience to get through life. Of course there were difficult times, especially when I first left, but somehow I got through those and that had a lot to do with my time there."

"I want to go back and tell the children there now that you can make the best of your life whatever your circumstances."

"You get out of life what you put in; you have so many opportunities. I consider myself very lucky that I went there because it made me the person I am. I even want my ashes scattered there."

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ON DISPLAY: The notebooks from Charles Darwin's voyage in the Beagle are now online

Voyage through Darwin's notes

THE remaining notebooks belonging to Charles Darwin are to be published online, revealing his day-to-day thoughts while on HMS Beagle, *writes Marijke Cox.*

Experts at English Heritage have digitised the books so that observations and doodles made by the naturalist during his round-the-world trip can be seen by the public.

Darwin, who lived in Down House near Orpington, scribbled down his immediate thoughts of what intrigued him most while travelling and many of these notes were used in his *On the Origin of Species* book, published 150 years ago this week.

But one notebook, called Galapagos, has gone missing and as part of the online launch, history experts are appealing to the public to help track it down. It is thought to have been stolen in the early 1980s from Down House, which is open to the public.

Simon Thurley, chief executive of English Heritage, said: "We're delighted people can now leaf through Darwin's notebooks online, but there's a desperately sad gap on the shelves and it's one we hope will be filled."

The 14 Beagle notebooks give a glimpse into Darwin's mind while out in the field and contain a mixture of geological, zoological and personal observations.

They include notes on fossils he excavated, his discovery of a new frog off Chile and his escape from a dangerous snow-storm.

The Galapagos notebook records Darwin's first encounter with two creatures that first gave him the idea for his theory of evolution.

He saw a similarity between the mainland Chilean bird and the Galapagos mockingbirds, but he also noted the differences between his specimens from other islands.

In *On the Origin of Species* he used his findings to state that species were not fixed for all time, but were continuously evolving.

After his return to England from the five-year trip in October, 1836, he used specimens he had collected and the observations recorded in his notebooks to establish himself in the scientific world.

It was at Down House that he used his findings to develop his theory of evolution and wrote *On the Origin of Species*.

After his death in 1882, his family moved to Cambridge, but they returned the 15 notebooks from the voyage to Down House, which now belongs to English Heritage.

It was not until the early 1980s that Darwin's great grandson Professor Richard Keynes noticed the book was missing. It contains entries Darwin made between March and November, 1835, when in Chile, Peru, the Galapagos and Tahiti. Inside the front cover he had written "63.5 Darwin HM Beagle".

Outstanding

Randal Keynes OBE, author, conservationist and Darwin's great, great grandson, said it is only a matter of time before it resurfaces.

He added: "The Galapagos notebook is of outstanding value for the history of science."

"If Darwin had not posed the questions in that notebook, he might never have written *On the Origin of Species*."

To celebrate the 200th anniversary of the scientist's birth and the 150 years since the publication of his book, English Heritage has created a new exhibition at Down House.

Visitors can view unseen objects, pages from *On the Origin of Species* and a rotating display of the Beagle notebooks.

To see the notebooks or for more details visit www.english-heritage.org.uk/darwin.

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Good sports design baton

A TRAVELLING pod, a giant pass-the-parcel, and instruments made of sports equipment – these are just some of the ideas for the UK's first cultural baton.

This latest project by Kent County Council aims to show off Kent's culture and creativity in the run-up to the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012.

It involves a Kent Cultural Baton travelling around the county visiting festivals, organisations, individuals, schools and businesses.

Four artists are battling it out to have their design used for the project and a winner will be announced at an event on Thursday with special guest Paralympian Danny Crates.

Landscape

The ideas include artist Robert Frith's proposal of a giant pass the parcel made from 365 layers that will slowly unravel each day.

It will represent the 31 different sports of the Olympics and participating countries while making reference to Kent's culture and history. His competitor Georgie Manly is running with a sports theme and proposes to create an orchestra made of different sports equipment that will perform at venues around the county.

Artist Nicole Mollet hopes to make a travelling pod which will create an alternative map of Kent showing the forgotten and hidden places. The final idea is by Cathy Streeter who hopes her LED ball design which plays a film of Kent's cultural landscape will be successful.

KCC's Mike Hill said: "The project is unique and the first of its kind. The Olympic and Paralympic Games are a chance to celebrate the culture of the host country."

Alcohol crackdown is reclaiming the streets

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A CLAMPDOWN on people abusing alcohol is tempting people back onto the streets again, say County Hall officials.

They said residents are feeling safer when they venture out after authorities came down hard on those using booze to fuel antisocial behaviour. Kent County Council said where the crackdown had been a priority, there had been reduced criminal damage, fewer people drunk or rowdy in public, and increased feelings of safety.

The Kent Community Alcohol Partnership said it has been working tirelessly in three pilot areas. Its outstanding success means it will now be extended to four more.

An evaluation carried out by the University of Kent found criminal damage was down by 28 per cent, people drunk or rowdy in public was down by three per cent, and overall feelings of safety were up by four per cent.

The Partnership has been operating since March in Edenbridge, Canterbury and Thanet and is now the largest of its kind in the UK.

KCC said it has brought together local authorities with retailers to reduce the impact of under-age drinking. Trading Standards is working closely with Kent Police, the Retail of Alcohol Standards Group and Kent district



PRIORITY: The clampdown is beginning to make scenes like this a thing of the past

councils, as the licensing authorities.

The scheme has used a combination of training for retailers, patrols by police and community wardens, and activities for young people.

Traders in partnership areas need to commit

to stringent checks for alcohol sales, including asking anyone who appears to be under 21, or preferably under 25, for proof of age, they said. In return, retailers have support and training from the partnership as well as a window sticker to show they are a responsible trader.

Next on the list to get the treatment is Heron ward in Herne Bay and Whitstable; Cliftonville West and Margate Central; Maidstone High Street and Swanley town centre.

Kent's Chief Constable Michael Fuller, added: "One of our main priorities is tackling violence in the night-time economy, often caused by excessive alcohol consumption."

"Problems with alcohol link into many of our priorities, including antisocial behaviour, domestic abuse and drink driving."

"We are pleased to support this scheme in raising awareness of the issues of under-age drinking, binge drinking and those who buy alcohol for under-age drinkers."

"It is important that we reduce the impact of under-age or excessive drinking and we will work to achieve this."

Chairman of the Retail of Alcohol Standards Group, Nick Grant, added: "The results of this pilot are excellent and demonstrate what can be achieved... Challenge 25 is already widely in use by retailers and the accreditation scheme will reinforce the work we are doing to change the culture around alcohol."

Anyone interested in the scheme can contact Kent Trading Standards by calling 08458 247 247 or email KCAP@kent.gov.uk.

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New Fathers 4 Justice threat to scale Canterbury Cathedral

FATHERS' rights campaigners planning a protest at Canterbury Cathedral have refused to rule out climbing up the ancient building.

In the past, members of New Fathers 4 Justice dressed as superheroes have managed to clamber on a series of high-profile buildings and unfurl banners demanding the right for fathers to see their children following a divorce or separation.

A source inside the controversial group, which will mount the demo on December 12, said: "We are still working out details. The final strategy is being decided."

Police have warned they will react accordingly if anyone climbs on the cathedral.

The cathedral's history goes back to 597AD and it is currently running a £50 million fundraising appeal to tackle serious structural problems facing the ancient building.

But 'Jason', the group's South East co-ordinator said the demo was not a protest against the Church of England.

He said: "In fact we want them to do more to help fathers who are being cut off from their children through no fault of their own. "Most people know this is not fair, yet it seems the Church and Government simply turn a blind eye to these men and dismiss their situation as unimportant."

Flour bombs

"The Synod has not debated the family and the breakdown of the unit since 1991, which is frankly shocking.

"In many cases they have done nothing wrong, yet are told by mothers and the courts that they have no right to see their own children. For many, this is a wrench that is almost impossible to bear."

The group is now organising what it is calling a "high-profile protest" at the Cathedral for the first time.

Previously members have scaled the Royal Courts of Justice, Tower Bridge, thrown purple flour bombs at Tony Blair during Prime Minister's Questions, and climbed onto the roof of Labour deputy leader Harriet Harman's house.

Jason said: "We want to put 'father' back into Christmas. That is our slogan for this demonstration, and it makes so much sense.

"There are many fathers in Kent who are in this position and we urge them to attend this protest, preferably dressed in a Santa outfit to drive the point home to the Church.

"We want to get our message across and slowly chip away at the establishment in the hope they will one day see how serious this is for so many people."

It warns it can't rule out direct action at

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

religious services. Fathers are also part of the church flock that need help, yet the Church fails to speak out about a problem that causes so much pain, said Jason.

A spokesman for the Cathedral said: "I think

there are better ways to make their protest. The courts and government control these things. It's also not true the Church has turned its back on this.

"On February 12 this year, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams spoke at the House of Lords' Children: Good Childhood Inquiry Report Debate where he backed the debate which called attention to the publication of the report."



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Cat charity to benefit from secret donation of Japanese artefacts

A TREASURE trove of Japanese artwork will raise a small fortune to help pay for the care of kittens waiting for a new home, *writes Chris Murphy.*

Staff at Canterbury Auction Galleries were amazed when the artefacts were donated anonymously.

Rescued cats and kittens waiting to be re-homed by a Kent charity will benefit from the generous donation which was dropped off at one of its shops, all wrapped up.

It wasn't until staff started to peel away the paper did they start to realise what they had. They came from a woman who spent part of her life living in Japan who collected them gradually while in the orient. She handed over the collection of figures to the Folkestone and Hythe branch of Cats Protection.

They go under the hammer the Canterbury Auction Galleries on December 8 and are expected to raise more than £1,800. The company is giving the charity a reduced commission to maximise the amount raised.

Frances Baker, 57, from Cats Protection said: "I was amazed and delighted when I found these amazing objects left at our shop in Hythe High Street. I just kept opening one package after another getting more and more excited. It is extremely generous of the person involved. The money raised will go a long way to caring for our cats."



RARE: Cliona with the donated collection

The items are made from ivory, but can be legally traded as they were made to so long ago, the auctioneer said.

Tony Pratt from the gallery said these items are known by collectors as 'okimono' and date from the Meiji period, which is roughly equivalent to the Victorian era.

They were made by skilful Japanese artisans and craftsmen who previously had made weapons and armour for samurai warriors. When it became unlawful to carry weapons in public, the craftsmen turned their hands to producing fine works of art.

The pick of the collection is a figure of a traveller wearing a wide brimmed coolie straw hat and carrying two parcels. It has an estimated value of up to £500.

For more information phone the auctioneer on 01227 763337.

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Loan scheme to get empty homes back on market

AN INITIATIVE to help get empty houses back into use has approved £1 million of interest-free loans this month to homeowners across the county, *writes Chris Murphy*.

The cash from No Use Empty will help the owners to renovate new family homes from across Kent including Dover, Thanet, Dartford, Shepway and Sevenoaks.

The organisation is a partnership between Kent County Council and district and borough councils to combat the problem of empty housing.

So far it has issued more than £2.5m in interest-free loans, and comes as the Empty Homes National Week of Action ends this weekend.

The latest loans include £25,000 for Greenlands in Sevenoaks, a detached property in need of complete refurbishment. The project has planning permission to include a partial demolition and partial extension, to create a new three-bedroom family home.

In Thanet, several new loans have been awarded, including a loan of £175,000 in Cliftonville for a property which was originally part of the Landmark Hotel. The property has been derelict for some time and has been subject to squatters and vandalism.

Full planning permission and building control has been granted to convert the building into 14 two-bedroom apartments, and essential redevelopment and refurbishment in keeping with the building's historic character and style, will now start.

Partnership

KCC has earmarked £5m to help owners of empty properties pay for renovations needed to bring them back into use.

The loan scheme is intended for any owner of an empty property, or someone who is considering buying an empty property.

They can apply for an interest-free loan of up to £25,000 per unit to a maximum of £175,000, which is made as an up-front payment.

KCC's cabinet member for regeneration Cllr Kevin Lines said: "The enormous success of the loan scheme highlights just how critical the issue of empty housing is in the county and how the No Use Empty partnership is needed by residents to tackle the problem."

"We're so pleased we have been able to assist more people in giving a new lease of life to so many empty homes, and that the initiative in Kent is proving a valuable option for those who are finding it hard to raise money for these projects."

Contact the No Use Empty hotline on 08458 247605, or www.no-use-empty.org.

Campaign's survey reveals defining factor

By **MARIJKE COX**

marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

THREE out of four women in Kent believe education is the defining factor in climbing the career ladder and improving gender equality, according to a new report.

Plan UK, one of the world's largest children's development organisations, carried out the survey as part of its Girls Without Voices campaign, which aims to help women in deprived countries go to school.

To raise awareness of the need for education in the developing world, researchers spoke to women across Kent to highlight the importance of schooling and to see how they benefited from the British system.

They found that two-thirds of women believed education is an important factor when coming up against men in the workplace.

Findings also revealed that 70 per cent of the county's women regretted not making more of their education.

Marie Staunton, Plan UK's chief executive, said people often forget how lucky they are in the UK.

"We take it as a given that we will go to school and receive a full education," she said.

"In the developing world, girls in particular, are not this lucky."

Further findings have also revealed that people in Kent believe their schooling has a direct link to how they are valued in society.

More than half stated that it is the key to earning respect.

Ms Staunton said: "Almost three-quarters of women wish they'd taken advantage of what the British education system has to offer."

"Our research didn't specify whether they would have earned more money had they made more of their education, but I think we can safely say that a good education will more often than not lead to a better work income."

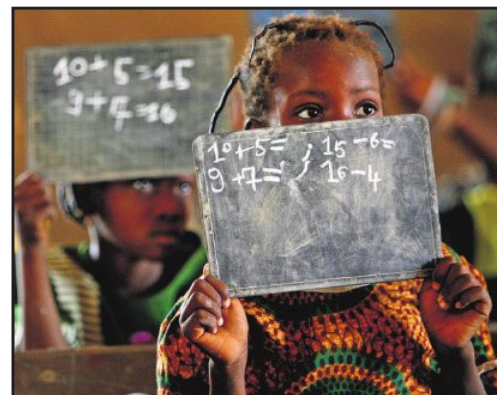
She added that 89 per cent of people living in the county believe a good education will lead to a happier life.

The Girls Without Voices campaign, which is part of a wider campaign called Because I'm a Girl – an eight-year programme aiming to transform the lives of the world's poorest girls – is vital, according to Plan UK.

Ms Staunton said: "Young women and girls make up almost a quarter of the world's population. They have the same rights as their brothers. Yet too often they remain at the bottom of the social ladder."

"They are usually the first to be pulled out

Women say education is key to rising social ladder



LEARNING: Marie Staunton aims to help women in deprived countries gain an education

of school as families cannot afford books, uniforms and other costs.

Challenge

"If we continue to ignore these issues, these young girls will be resigned to a life of domestic servitude – so continuing a cycle of poverty as they become less likely to send their own children to school."

Singer Beverley Knight is backing the campaign.

She said: "As a nation, we need to sit up and take notice of the challenge and discrimination girls face in the developing world."

"As a Plan UK sponsor myself, I urge people to support Plan's fight for a girl's right to an education, just as hard as someone once fought for ours."

The charity is calling for people in the county to help support the Girls Without Voices campaign by visiting www.girlswithoutvoices.org.

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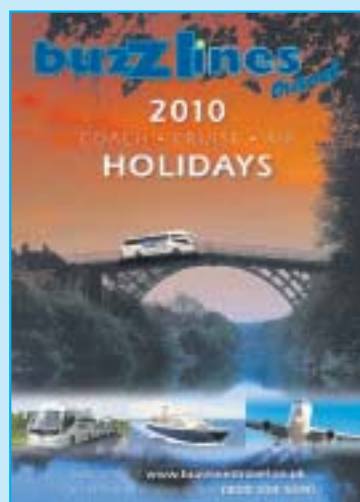
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Mums-to-be first to trial 'health' card

EXPECTANT mothers in Swale will be among the first patients in the country to try out a controversial new NHS cash card.

Mums-to-be will be given the chance to take part in a three-year national trial which will see them purchasing their own health care services using a pre-loaded debit card.

Health campaigners have criticised the pilot, which will be jointly run by the Eastern and Coastal Kent Primary Care Trust, Kent County Council and Kent University, and warned it could be used by the Government to limit funding and force patients into prioritising their own health needs.

Worried

Sarah Green, 32, a teaching assistant from Sittingbourne, is four months pregnant, and said she had enough to think about already.

She said: "This is my first pregnancy and we have a lot on our plate. We've had to consider how we will manage financially, what we need to buy, scans, tests and classes. On top of that, being given a card and told to buy my own services is just too much."

Nick Goodwin, senior fellow in health policy at The King's Fund, warned there were major

hazards ahead for the project.

He said: "There is evidence from similar schemes in Europe that money may be used on things that do not improve health care, or people find they do not have enough money to cover their needs."

Royal College of Midwives senior analyst Sean O'Sullivan said he was worried the scheme could put poorer women at a disadvantage.

He said: "The danger is the scheme is taken up by the better informed middle classes at the expense of more deprived people."

The pilot is expected to include older patients, terminally ill patients, carers, people with learning difficulties and mental health patients in its later stages.

PCT assistant commissioning director Alison Davis said the scheme was not designed to cut costs.

She said: "There is no expectation the Kent card would become compulsory and it will not cut out the patient's GP or short circuit advice of a doctor. It's about providing choice."

By JILL HURST

Boiler fire sees Dungeness nuclear station evacuated

TEN fire crews tackled a blaze at Dungeness B nuclear power station.

The plant was shut down on Monday after a boiler fire. The plant's own fire teams were helped by crews from Kent Fire and Rescue Service.

None of the 52 staff were injured and the building was evacuated after the alarm was raised just before midnight.

A KFRS spokesman said the blaze was extinguished by 2am.

The station has two reactor units, one of which is currently

offline for scheduled maintenance.

Martyn Butlin, of Dungeness operator British Energy, said: "A small fire started in the boiler annex of unit 22.

"We activated our usual procedure and have our fire teams on site, but we always call in Kent Fire and Rescue to double-check on what we do.

"They put out the blaze and turned off the reactor and we are looking into the cause now.

"We plan for all eventualities, including this one."

Police's weather warning to bikers as winter sets in

MOTORISTS are being urged to be aware of motorbikes during the bad weather.

Drivers and bikers are being warned to take care, especially as the winter weather can cause problems for motorcyclists if they do not ride carefully.

PC Andy Ledger said: "It's important for all drivers, including motorcyclists themselves, to pay extra attention during the bad weather.

"One small error can prove fatal and we want to ensure there are no fatal accidents in

the run up to and after Christmas. Drivers should regularly check their vehicles are road worthy and are safe to drive. They should also remember that wet roads could be slippery, causing breaking distances to increase."

The warning supports the Think Bike campaign which urges all road users to be aware of bikers on Kent's roads.

In 2007, 20 per cent of the deaths on Britain's roads were bikers, who only make up one per cent of road traffic.

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Feel-good Christmas shopping

Troubled students turn to helpline



BRAIN STRAIN: Financial woes can add to the stresses of university life

THE number of students using a helpline for people with mental health problems is rocketing, **writes Marijke Cox.**

Managers at Mental Health Matters say it is down to financial worries, after more than 80,000 university students were left penniless at the start of term after problems at the Student Loans Company (SLC).

Delays with payments and difficulties getting through to the company meant students – many of whom were away from home for the first time – were unable to pay their bills.

Alan Heyes, community engagement executive at Mental Health Matters, which specialises in mental health and wellbeing, said the helpline was always there for people who need it, including troubled students.

“A lot of people have returned home from university because of financial problems,”

he said. “They couldn’t afford to pay their rent and have no support network, especially being away from home.

“We offer support over the phone from trained professionals. Some people just want to talk to someone, but can’t open up to the people around them.

“In the next few weeks we’re going to be rolling out information to universities to let more students know about the helpline.”

Mental Health Matters was founded in 1984, but launched in Kent 12 months ago.

Mr Heyes said the helpline was different to the Samaritans, which is an emotional support service for people in the UK and Ireland.

“We specialise in mental health and wellbeing,” he said. “Our call centre staff are all trained and most have a certificate or BA in counselling and psychotherapy.”

The helpline provides instant access to emotional support covering a wide range of issues and gives individuals a personal

assessment and support package.

It helps with employment, housing, community support and offers psychotherapy.

Mr Heyes said: “If people want to call every day, that’s fine. We can even call them back if they prefer.

“We’re launching a new scheme called Signpost Kent in January, which is an interactive project working with charities and other partners to show the public what help is available to them.

“There are also hands-on practises we use, such as health walks, where we encourage people to come along and take part in a walk somewhere. They get to meet other people and build up a support network. Exercise also helps combat depression, so it’s a good thing to do.”

Visit www.mentalhealthmatters.com for more information. For the helpline, call 0800 107 0160 between 5pm-9am Monday to Friday, or anytime over weekends and Bank Holidays.

Conference on business crime

SENIOR policing officials are holding a conference about business crime this week.

Kent Police Authority chairwoman Ann Barnes and Chief Constable Michael Fuller will host the event on Tuesday, at Ashford International Hotel.

The conference is aimed at those who own or manage a business and will offer the chance to voice concerns about policing matters.

Speakers will include Lee Kettlewell from the Home Office, Assistant Chief Constable Allyn Thomas and Stuart Roberts of the Midway Manor Club.

Operation Stack will also be discussed, followed by a voting session run by auctioneer Clive Emson. The session aims to identify the key priorities for businesses in the county.

The conference will run from 9am until 1pm. To book, call Hanna Hales on 01622 604482.

Thug’s pub attack

A TEENAGER was headbutted twice by a man who accused the youth of staring at him.

The assault happened in the Portobello Inn, London Road, West Kingsdown, on Saturday, November 21, between 9-10pm.

The 17-year-old was in the outside smoking area at the pub when he was approached by an older man who accused the youth of staring at him.

The man grabbed the teenager and headbutted him twice, leaving his victim with a suspected broken nose, a lacerated lip and broken teeth.

The attacker is white, aged 35-45, about 6ft 4in, stocky and bald.

He wore jeans and a light green top with a small motif. Call the police on 01732 379217 if you can help.



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Tiny stars set to have a ball with Cinders

STARS of the future will be shining brightly this winter in the Orchard Theatre's glittering pantomime, *writes Jane Connolly*.

Children from the Liz Burville Performing Arts Centre star alongside Birds of a Feather actress Lesley Joseph in the Dartford venue's spectacular production of Cinderella.

The talented young performers will be stepping out in style, proving that they can measure up to the professional artists in the cast.

Principal Liz Burville has been providing children for the Orchard's shows for many years, but this time she faced a particular challenge.

"This year they particularly wanted very small children, which quickly had limitations because the kids are so much taller these days," she said.

Candidates

"So the little ones are quite young and quite inexperienced; a lot of them have not done panto before. The initial thing was to get the height right and find cute little personalities to look good on stage and enjoy the whole experience.

"It's not tough, but they've got to look as if they're enjoying themselves."

She soon found the right candidates and now 20 young performers are preparing to tread the boards for the first time.

The group is divided into two teams, the Slippers and the Pumpkins, and there is just one boy in their ranks.

Lining up for the Slippers are Hannah Bouhamdi, Isabella Raymond, Rachael Aust, Olivia Raymond, Abbi Kemp, Isabelle Livermore, Phoebe Pickering, Lucy Addley-Nichols, Lydia Bouhamdi and Joshua Villalta.

The Pumpkins line-up includes Emily Hickman, Olivia Wellard, Millie Minkowich, Megan Young, Ellie Gilbert, Caitlin Gander, Rebecca Young, Tallulah Weaver, Ria Marsh and Cerys Bright.

With a big stage debut ahead for many of them, the children are looking forward to an exciting festive season.

"They're very excited and there is a bit of anticipation," Ms Burville said.

"I've been getting them together to work



CAST: The Slippers (top) and Lesley Joseph

on different ideas, so they learn to pick up routines and discover different styles they might not be used to. They all seem to be very excited about the show."

Having been involved with the Orchard Theatre pantomimes in various contexts for about 20 years, Ms Burville understands the many benefits of inviting children onto the stage.

"It shows a diversity of cast, so you're not just seeing experienced artists," she said.

"Pantomime is quite often the first theatre experience for a child and for them to see another child on stage gives it added interest. From the point of view of the children in the show, panto is such a bright, happy production to be in.

"Lots of kids really grow in confidence and personality by doing these things."

Cinderella runs at the Orchard Theatre, Dartford, from Saturday, December 5 to Sunday, January 10. To book tickets call the box office on 01322 220000 or go online at www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.



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Today, they are one of the county's unique home-grown foods, despite being nearly wiped out 60 years ago. RACHEL MCATHY finds out more about how delicious cobnuts are making a comeback.

WITH the festive season drawing closer, many of us will be looking forward to the ultimate winter warmer: chestnuts roasting on an open fire.

But in Kent this winter, it is the county's famous cobnut which is stepping into the spotlight.

The cobnut, which is a type of hazelnut, is not a new product to grow in our countryside. They are thought to have been growing in plantations, or plats, from as early as the 16th century, even originally fulfilling the role of the conker in the traditional playground game.

One variety of the cobnut is the Kentish Cob, believed to have been introduced in the 1830s, where it mainly grew in the Golden Triangle of the county, covering Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Maidstone. This was because the nuts could then easily be transported to London to be sold.

Alexander Hunt, chairman of the Kentish Cobnut Association, runs Potash Farm, a 10 acre cobnut orchard near Sevenoaks.

He said the nuts are becoming more and more popular.

"In the 1900s, there were thousands of acres of cobnuts grown in the county, but this reduced substantially between the first and second world wars," he said.

"At the time, there were more valuable horticultural crops grown in Kent and so the nut trees were taken out to make way for them."

In fact, production levels declined so dramatically, that by 1951, Kent had only 300 acres of cobnut farming left, with many plantations left derelict.

But since the association formed in the 1980s, the nut has been brought back from the brink and a good market continues to thrive today.

Mr Hunt estimates that the association members' land now covers between 4,000 and 5,000 acres, mainly within the county and the south east.

The bigger growers sell their produce to supermarkets such as Waitrose and Morrisons, whilst smaller growers sell at farmers markets and special events.

Kent grows more cobnuts than anywhere else, hence the Kentish Cob being named for the county, this is one of 60 varieties and the most popular.

"It grows very well and is a very reliable crop in our climate," Mr Hunt said. "When you pick it early, it has a fresh, green,



crunchy flavour that people like for salads, dressings or even just with a glass of wine and a bit of salt.

"Later in the autumn, the nuts naturally ripen and get a bit golden before going brown.

"Then it will fall out of the husk, or we pick them and put them through a de-husking machine. The flavour of these is much more nutty and sweeter, which I personally prefer."

At Potash Farm, all the winter pruning takes place between December and March.

Mowing takes place regularly to keep the orchards tidy and spot tidying is carried out at the base of the trees.

They are then left to develop from May to July, before picking begins in the middle of August until mid October.

Potash Farm grows five varieties of the nut; Kentish Cob, Butler, Ennis, Gunslebert and a few Cosford.

Further east in the county, Brogdale Farm, near Faversham, which houses the National Fruit Collection, also cultivates cobnut trees within its orchard.

Traditionally, cobnuts were eaten by the Victorians as an after dinner accompaniment, with Port and fruit.

Today, a lot of people still eat them fresh, but they are also enjoyed as an alternative to hazelnuts and almonds in starters, main meals and desserts.

"They are lovely in soups or salads. One of my favourites is parmesan and cobnut cheese straws," Mr Hunt adds.

"They are also good in stuffing, on fish coatings, in chocolate desserts or fudges and they are great in tiramisu."

For more information visit www.kentishcobnuts.com or you can order a range of locally grown Christmas snacks from www.foodforkent.co.uk.



Alexander's savoury stars

Makes 40 biscuits
Preparation time: 40 minutes
Cooking time: 20 minutes

75g plain flour
75g grated Parmesan cheese
75g butter
1 level tsp salt
1 level tsp cayenne pepper
25g sun-dried tomatoes
25g roasted cobnuts
25g black pitted olives
1 egg
1 level tsp poppy, caraway or sesame seeds

Blend flour, cheese, butter, salt and cayenne pepper in a food processor until the pastry forms a ball. Knead lightly then wrap in clingfilm and chill for about 10 minutes.

Meanwhile finely chop olives, cobnuts and tomatoes.

Roll out the pastry on a floured work surface until about 5mm thick. Brush with beaten egg and sprinkle over an even layer of the chopped mixture. Fold the pastry into a neat parcel shape to enclose filling entirely.

Roll out pastry again to a 1cm thickness and use a star cutter to stamp out shapes. Brush lightly with beaten egg and sprinkle with the seeds. Leave to chill again for about 20 minutes.

Bake at 180C/350F/Gas 4 for 15-20 mins until well browned. Leave on baking sheets for five minutes before removing to cooling rack.

The stars can be frozen. To serve make sure they are completely defrosted at room temperature and warm gently if you like.

Enjoy some midwinter fare

Sissinghurst Castle is playing host to two-days of festivity at their first ever Midwinter Fair next month.

Visitors will be treated to an exhibition of crafts for the home and garden as well as some delicious stalls offering locally produced food and drink.

This includes a glass of mulled cider and a mince pie in the Food Tent for a real taste of the festive season.

The fair will run from Thursday to Friday, offering plenty of time to stock up on some tasty treats before Christmas.

Tickets cost £5 if booked in advance, or £6.50 on the gate, entry for children costs £3.25 whilst those under five go free.

To book tickets or for more information call 0800 294 9011.



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KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

Pay and dismay

FOR years there has been a kind of united public front against traffic wardens and their hard stance on parking infringements.

So with revelations that councils in Kent have raked in more than £6 million in parking fines over the past year, you can understand the outcry from motorists across the county.

But then again, you would think that by now people would know that parking on double-yellow lines or over a driveway is just crying out for a ticket and empty wallet.

And everyone knows how frustrating it is to be stuck in traffic because a driver has blocked the road due to illegal parking, oblivious to the tailback it's caused.

On the other hand, you can understand the resentment to inflexible traffic wardens who stand patiently in dark corners waiting for an unsuspecting motorist to run off and get change for the parking meter. You also can't help but feel sorry for the driver who's jumped out the car to pop a DVD through the door of Blockbuster only to return minutes later to find a ticket on their windscreen.

There has to be a bit of compassion when it comes to traffic enforcement and wardens would probably enhance their reputation if they looked at each case individually.

Pull the other one

INSULTING the mother-in-law has just got that little bit harder now a manufacturing company has banned certain jokes from its Christmas crackers.

Instead of the poor gags usually found, families can now find 'ice-breaker' questions such as "with whom would you least like to be stuck in a lift with?" Perhaps insulting the mother-in-law won't be so hard after all.

OPINION:

Fight this flight of fancy

Rodney Chambers shoots down Johnson's plan for a Thames estuary airport



THE Mayor of London Boris Johnson has a grim vision for Kent and Medway.

Seemingly, he wants to blight the area with 24-hour flights, increased noise and air pollution, and destroy some of the UK's most important wildlife reserves – a vision we want to ensure doesn't become a reality.

Following the recent publication of the Mayor of London's feasibility report into a Thames estuary airport, Medway Council, Kent County Council and the RSPB launched an online petition against this 'pie in the sky' scheme.

So far, in the few weeks since it was launched, more than 1,200 people have registered their opposition on the site, which is at www.stopestuaryairport.co.uk.

We have made it clear this airport is not needed or wanted. It is a scheme we will fight for all the environmental, economic and practical reasons that stack up against it.

But what are the Mayor of London's real intentions?

Recently, in a report leaked to the BBC Mr Johnson stated that this estuary airport would be the "bravest project" his Greater London Authority could do.

And, in a recent article for the Sunday Times, his close advisor Kit Malthouse said the new airport would be so large (up to

six runways) that Heathrow could be transferred there. In addition to this, he believes there's plenty of room for Gatwick too.

Are they aiming for a London that is airport free?

If he is, no thought has been given to the thousands of businesses and jobs that rely on the existing airports, to the devastating impact moving them would have on the countryside, or to the estuary's environmentally and scientifically significant sites used by 300,000 migrating birds annually. What will happen to people in areas to the west of London such as Hounslow and Spelthorne where one in 10 rely on Heathrow for work? What will the mayor say to those in Ealing and Hillingdon who will lose their jobs?

We in Medway know all too well what it is like when your biggest employer closes, as this happened with the Royal Naval Dockyard in Chatham, 25 years ago.

Does Mr Johnson and his team realise what effect closing Heathrow will have? After all, it provides work for 72,000 people, which is more than a third of the

UK aviation industry. This is a larger figure than the number of people unemployed in Kent and Essex so, to put it plainly, we don't have the workforce for this.

At least 320 businesses are directly associated with Heathrow and there are hundreds more supporting industries.

All of these would move.

Kent could only accommodate them by building new industrial estates, which would blight the area. With these would come vast road and rail networks cutting into great swathes of the countryside. Under this scheme the Garden of England would become the Driveway of London – the capital's car park.

At the moment, thankfully, the mayor's office seems to be in an isolated minority over the airport scheme as no heavyweight national politician has, as yet, waded in to support them.

Hopefully this will remain to be so. However, the new national Infrastructure Planning Commission, which comes into effect in March, will stop locally-elected politicians and the people they serve making decisions on

major infrastructure projects. Instead, an unelected quango will be allowed to do the Government's bidding. This could lead to London-based bureaucrats forcing an airport upon us.

It is for these reasons that Medway Council and its partners need to push the alternative to a Thames estuary airport, which is to make better use of our existing airports. Birmingham, for example, has suggested it could double passengers and other regional airports could be better used, such as Manston. This, along with the expansion of high-speed rail, is a viable alternative and needs serious consideration.

Instead of spending £40 billion-plus on a new airport, and all the extra billions needed for new roads, railways and other logistics, we could improve our existing infrastructure and build new railways at a fraction of the price.

There is not a moment to lose, I urge you to sign our petition.

• **Councillor Rodney Chambers is the leader of Medway Council.**

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Behind the Tory mask

Twice in recent months Conservative Party headquarters has had to disown Bromley Tories. In the summer, it was a Bromley Conservative councillor who wanted to divert taxpayers' money from state schools to subsidise parents who send their children to private schools. Now we have another Bromley Tory being slapped down for referring to the "funny names" of candidates for the Orpington constituency.

Apart from what this tells us about the individuals concerned, what does it tell us about the Conservative Party?

Don't be taken in by the softer face of Toryism that David Cameron sometimes appears to be advocating. The true face of the Tories is on display in Bromley. Labour remains the only party with a genuine commitment to social justice and equality.

Cllr John Getgood, Labour group leader, Bromley council

Not a minority opinion

Sadly, I believe the majority of people who vote Conservative or Labour would support the prejudiced views of Cllr Hobbins. So I admire David Cameron's and Bromley's decision to suspend him.

Stefan Matt, Bapchild

EU is a force for good

One gets tired of the constant anti-EU bleats of RE Tucker. If Britain followed his wishes and left Europe we would end up a shallow pimple on the backside of our great continent, home of Western civilisation.

By becoming a force for good in Europe we would lose none of our independence. I am afraid the English Channel has sheltered us from reality and made some of us unpleasantly arrogant.

ET Birge, Hartley

Merit in very short supply

While your paper and other media have been right to condemn Bromley Conservative Cllr Peter Hobbins for his racist comments during the Orpington selection process, the story risks overshadowing an equally disturbing issue facing the constituency: the poor quality of the candidates for selection.

Cllr Hobbins claims candidates have asked him how to make a speech, what is meant by canvassing and where Orpington is. While the Liberal Democrats have chosen David McBride, a local man

who has served the community as a councillor for over 10 years, the Tories appear to be on the verge of selecting a candidate who has never spoken to residents, never been out in the community and has not even the wit to look Orpington up on the internet.

The electorate will judge candidates on their merits, not on their names or nationalities. In the case of the Tory candidates who contacted Cllr Hobbins, merit appears to be in short supply.

Cllr Tom Papworth, Lib Dem, Bromley

It's better by degrees

As a major provider of higher education for the public services, the faculty of health and social care at Canterbury Christ Church University welcomes the Government's announcement that, from 2013, all nurses will have to gain a degree to enter the profession.

The move will bring nursing in line with other health professions such as radiography and physiotherapy, which have been all-graduate since the early 1990s.

We also believe it will make the profession a more attractive option for those considering a nursing career and evidence from Wales supports the view that offering a degree does not impact negatively on recruitment.

Healthcare is increasingly complex and the range of available treatments very diverse.

People are well educated about their illnesses and rightly demand a high level of competence and information support to help them choose the right care or intervention.

Caring remains at the heart of nursing, whatever the qualification, and there is no contradiction between caring and a good education – just the reverse.

As frontline practitioners, nurses must be knowledgeable, skilled and able to make complex decisions under pressure and for this a degree is essential. The biggest challenge to the proposal, however, is financial. At present, students enrolled on diploma programmes are eligible for a non means-tested bursary payment of about £6,000 a year. Students on degree programmes are not eligible and there is evidence that this is often a deciding factor for students when faced with the choice of diploma or degree.

Opportunities for part-time work to reduce

student debt are severely limited in health care education programmes due to the requirement for practice experience and it is therefore crucial the Government prioritises this issue in tandem with this development.

Hazel Colyer, Dean of Health and Social Care, CCCU

'Gifts' a waste of cash

As Christmas approaches, I have received appeals from many deserving charities. Some have included 'gifts' such as pens, calendars, a shopping bag, sets of Christmas cards and so on.

Why is the money spent on these gifts not spent on the charities' targets (mostly unfortunate people in Africa)?

And why can't some of these charities merge, as they seem to be trying to help the same people? I was even sent money (12p) from one charity. A few mergers would, I believe, save running costs.

Janet Blend, Canterbury

What a load of rubbish

A recent visit to Cobbs Wood recycling centre at Ashford left me speechless. I live five minutes away and have often walked to the site, saving unnecessary use of the car.

But staff told me I wasn't allowed in on foot and to go back to my car. I told them I had walked to the centre. They replied that they "didn't make the rules" and neither would they take the two items from me.

What is the world coming to? People walk around the centre once they drive in, so what's the difference? Ashford council will no doubt cite health and safety, or preventing people parking elsewhere and queue jumping. Many people don't have cars – how do they do their bit for the environment? This absurd situation must be challenged.

Elizabeth Connolly, Ashford

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

Letters continued on page 34



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BIRTHS

BREWER

Proud Parents Timo and Elizabeth of Tunbridge Wells celebrate the birth of their son Devon Tate Brewer on the 7th November 2009.

CORKE

Dan and Sally of Whitstable would like to announce the birth of their son, Harry Hotspur Corke. Harry was born on 17th November 2009 at 17.05pm and weighed 9lb 10oz.

COUZENS

John and Natasha Couzens of Guston celebrate the birth of their daughter Mia Dawn Emily Couzens on 19th November 2009. Weighing 6lbs 12ozs.

GURUNG

Viviana Gurung born on the 18th November 2009, weighing 3kg. Daughter to Hom and Roshmi in Maidstone.

HARRISON-LINDLEY

David and Nicola of Minster celebrate the birth of their daughter Darcey Niamh Harrison-Lindley on the 2nd November 2009.

HODGES

Chloe Louise Betty Hodges, born 13th November 2009 weighing 7lbs 13ozs. Daughter to Sarah Hodges.

HOLMES

Stacey and Shane are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Maisie Sylvia Diane who was born on 17th November 2009.

MEDHURST

Robert and Jenny celebrate the birth of their son Matthew John on 11th November 2009.

PARKINS

Kate and Barnaby Parkins of Margate celebrate the birth of their daughter Erin Delacey Parkins on 17th November 2009.

PEACOCK

Geoff and Helen of Canterbury proudly announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Jessica Charlotte Peacock, on 10th November 2009. A new sister for Jack.

POVEY

Kelly and David of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Jensen Manuel Michael Povey, born on 23rd October 2009 at QEQM Hospital.

SMELT

Scott and Hayley are delighted to announce the arrival of Joseph Robert Markham Smelt.

STANDEN

Lyndsey and Clinton celebrate the birth of their daughter Aleah Lyndsey Standen on 12th November 2009, weighing 8lbs.

WATT

Lexi Morgan, born on 19th November weighing 9lb 4oz. Daughter to Derek and Julie and sister for Callum.

WHYMAN

Paul and Lewis celebrate the birth of their daughter Grace Lewis Whyman weighing 7lb 3oz born on the 3rd of November 2009.

DEATHS

BUCKWELL

Betty Buckwell nee Blake, died peacefully in Hythe on the 15th November 2009, aged 88 years.

PASSEY

Len Passey, Devoted Husband, Dad and Grandad, passed away peacefully on 22nd November 2009. Funeral to be held at Barham Crematorium on 4th December at 10:40am. A loved one is not gone until they are forgotten. And to live in the hearts of those left behind is to live forever. Sweet Dreams.

WRAIGHT

Cyril Ernest Wraight of Dover passed away peacefully on the 11th November 2009, aged 91 years. To live in the hearts of those left behind is to live forever.

This short-sightedness extends beyond the railways. One-person operated buses are another problem, especially in busy town centres. These buses often stop for several minutes while passengers board, causing traffic to build up and creating pollution. Why not bring back conductors on these routes? It would take people off the dole and make travelling by bus safer and quicker, while reducing pollution and saving fuel.

D Wiffen, Bexley

It's blue sky thinking

It is typical of the Labour Party and Thanet South MP Stephen Ladyman to say a railway station should not be placed at Manston airport until there is enough business to support it.

No mention of the obvious, which is to put a station there and it will attract business.

An airport with train access would be a huge attraction to airlines.

G Abrahams, Birchington

Stuck in asylum loop

Having attended a meeting in Deal, I was shocked to hear about the treatment of asylum seekers in Calais. These people were turned out of their self-made town, the so-called Jungle, on September 16, to the delight of both Home Secretary Alan Johnson and Ashford MP Damian Green (The Times, September 22), but then what happened?

As it turns out, many of them are still there. Their few possessions were thrown into landfill, leaving them on the street with no food, no shelter and no hope. Delightful.

It is now illegal for a French citizen to let these people into their home for a meal or a wash, and they are regularly rounded up (violently, it is claimed, if the No Borders group is not there with camcorders), 'processed', then kicked out on the street, minus any shelter they may have accrued. The few that are deported are sent to Greece, where they simply start the westward journey again.

Why do they not just go back home? Because there are wars going on in their countries, funded by, among others, the USA and UK.

Rights of Asylum (the Dublin Convention) state they must claim asylum in the first safe country they come to. So why not try that? Because the first so-called safe countries they come to are Greece – where they are locked in a detention centre, up to 150 people per room, for two years, treated violently, then kicked out and told to go home – or Italy, where they are simply beaten out of the country. They inevitably turn west, for France and Britain.

Some have been stuck in this loop for years. With winter approaching an appeal for clothing, blankets, sleeping bags or anything else has been put out, and anyone wishing to donate can call 07534 008 380.

Steven Campkin, Ashford Green Party

Our endless generosity

Why should we be impressed by your reports last week headlined 'Financial tide brings about a sea change' and 'Seeda has put millions into Kent'?

It's all taxpayers' money they are buying us off with. People might not be so impressed when they consider that from 2007-13 the EU's cohesion policy will cost the British taxpayer 308 billion euros allocated for projects across the EU.

And the British taxpayer is providing most of the 39 million euros Brussels is giving Bosnia to help offset the effects of the economic crisis. Aren't we a generous lot? Never mind the fact we could put our own money to better use here in Britain.

Roger Arnold, Herne Bay

The non-State we're in

How can the EU (a non-country, in spite of those features of a State claimed by it) impose citizenship on people without their agreement? Where in law, any law, is the

State given authority to assert the idea that dual citizenship (national and EU) is compulsory?

Where in law, any law, is Parliament given sovereignty over my birthright as a British (Welsh, Irish, Scots, etc) person? Why does the EU continue to claim ownership, and disposable rights of citizenship, via the Lisbon Treaty, when it breaches recognised rights already clear in other international treaties and declarations?

For example: the right to national self-determination laid down in the UN Charter of 1942, and articles in the associated Universal Declaration of Human Rights?

For example: Article 15 of the UN Charter: (a) "Everyone has the right to nationality. (b) No-one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality, nor denied the right to change his nationality."

Article 20 states: "No-one may be compelled to belong to an association – everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful association."

Similar articles are in the European Convention on Human Rights, 1950: "The imposition of a citizenship on people who do not want it, by an organisation which did not exist when they were born, to subjugate them to an alien system of government in which they have no confidence, or even any constitutional or political legitimacy, is absurd."

Victor Webb, Ukip, parliamentary candidate for Tunbridge Wells

Grandad's war record

I'm writing concerning my late grandfather Leslie Rhodes, from Rainham. During the 1930s and 40s he worked at Short Brothers in Rochester – I wonder if any readers remember him?

He was one of five men wanted by the police during the war. He wasn't a draft dodger or conscientious objector. He wanted to join the Army, but he and his mates were in a reserved occupation, building Sunderland flying boats on the River Medway. They were warned that if they tried to join up they would be arrested. Grandad ignored them, ended up in court, was fined and threatened with prison if he tried to join up again.

In the end he did see action – in the Home Guard. He was responsible for digging up an unexploded bomb (UXB).

In 1945 he returned his one and only medal – the Defence Medal – so disgusted was he by his treatment. I didn't know grandad that well but hope his surviving colleagues can add detail to what little I know. I'm also interested to see if any photograph exists of him at work.

After Shorts closed its factories in Medway, he worked for Elliots until retiring in the mid 1970s. He died in 1989.

Phillip Rhodes, Kingston-upon-Hull, email: ondoloop@yahoo.co.uk

Suez years recalled

I have written a book, Suez: The Hidden Truths, which details the turbulent years of the early 1950s in the Suez Canal Zone of Egypt, where thousands of mostly National Servicemen were posted to defend a strip of water against a hostile foe in appalling conditions.

Moreover, although there were many lads killed who were only in their teens, we were denied a medal for some inexplicable reason.

However, due to a small band of dedicated activists, this miscarriage of justice has now been righted. Many Suez veterans – all in their 70s – are delighted with the award of this belated medal, but it is a travesty that it wasn't issued at the time. This forgotten part of our history must be kept alive for future generations.

While other conflicts have rightly been given due coverage, Suez has been ignored. Suez: The Hidden Truths is for those interested in the history of British involvement in the Canal Zone during 1951-54.

The book is available from me from 14 Carrfield, Bamber Bridge, Preston, Lancs PR5 8BS or by phoning 01772 322717. It costs £7, including postage and packaging.

John Hunt, Suez veteran

Letters continued from page 33

I welcome Sainsbury's

I must respond to the recent letter from S Nicoll of Hythe, headlined 'Loss of independence'. Unless the town has changed greatly, I would like to know where I could find a baker or fishmonger. As for supermarkets, there's Iceland if you like everything frozen; Aldi who stack it high (none of it British) and Waitrose, which is too pricey for pensioners, the unemployed or disabled.

There is a good butchers I use. We have five hairdressers, a computer shop, an outdoor clothing shop, one selling bags and suitcases, along with charity shops, cafés, restaurants, takeaways and estate agents. You have two butchers, one greengrocer and two chemists.

What is Sainsbury's going to hurt in the High Street? As far as I can see, nothing. If you wish to get a week's good shopping on a budget, you can't do it in Hythe and have to go to Folkestone or Ashford.

I live above the site for Sainsbury's and what used to be Seeboard is a grey carbuncle, not nice to look at. I'm in favour of the supermarket. I won't have to use a car to get there, plus I can get all my shopping without having someone with me to get my wheelchair in and out of a car.

Derek Jarrold, Hythe

Make layabouts work

What happened to the Government's pledge that the unemployed wouldn't be able to carry on receiving benefits if they turned a job down if they were capable of doing it?

There are jobs available at job centres, recruitment agencies and in the newspapers.

There's no reason for many unemployed to continue receiving £92.80 in benefits.

Yet here I am, after working 50 years, paying taxes and NI, given the same money as my pension. I'm not able to pay all my bills, so am still working at the age of 65. It's time the Government stopped being so easy with the money people like myself have contributed throughout our lives and made

the jobless work full time, like any responsible person. The taxpayer seems to be supplementing everyone, while these layabouts are laughing at the whole system.

C Russell, Ramsgate

She's a real champion

As an enthusiastic supporter of the 2012 London Olympics, I agree with Dame Kelly Holmes' comments in your paper (November 15).

The Olympics have saved sport in the UK. At last a champion, and what a champion, for sport. All power to your campaign Dame Kelly. May your comments be taken to heart by the powers that be and may they put their money where their mouth is to back our young sportsmen and women to be the best in the world.

Winners bring a much-needed boost to the country's wellbeing. The feel-good factor abounds when Britain wins. Look at the Rugby World Cup triumph and the Ashes.

How proud I felt every time the Union Flag was raised at the Beijing Olympics and Paralympics. Keep up the good work, Dame Kelly.

John Gamet, Keston

Right up the junction

I read with amazement that £50 million is being budgeted to improve some of the shabbiest stations in the UK – including Clapham Junction and Manchester Victoria, two of our busiest railway stations.

Where is the sense in letting these and other stations fall into disrepair in the name of saving money only to then have to pay out large sums in repairs?

One of the reasons our stations are in such a bad state is that a lot of them are not staffed full-time, and those who do work in them have no pride. Some are still kept very well, but they are the minority.

I would start by making sure all stations are manned and that the workforce looks after them. This would cut unemployment and save on huge sums having to be spent at a later date, and it would also make them safer for the travelling public.



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Raising road safety banner

CHILDREN from two primary schools in west Kent have been asked to design banners to promote road safety.

The competition was launched on Monday by PC Nick Stevens, the neighbourhood officer for Kings Hill, and members of the neighbourhood policing team.

Pupils from Kings Hill and Discovery primary schools are taking part and the winning designs will be turned into banners and displayed outside the schools.

PC Stevens said: "Road safety is an important issue for local people and has particular relevance in the areas surrounding schools.

"The competition coincides with National Road Safety Week and gives young people the chance to think about how pedestrians, cyclists and motorists can stay safe on our roads."

Fresh start at club seminar

A SEMINAR will be held on Monday for professionals seeking a new beginning.

The free event has been organised by Sevenoaks Job Club and will take place at the town council offices in Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks, on November 30 from 10am.

An experienced business manager will take the seminar on how to start a business, become a business consultant or become an interim executive.

To register your interest email ann.white@sevenoakstown.gov.uk, or call 01732 459953.

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EDUCATION**



Ready for the Den

LEADING companies across the UK are helping young people in Kent as they prepare for a Dragons' Den-style competition.

Reaching for Gold, supported by the South East England Development Agency, is a contest for 14 to 19-year-olds to develop ideas that will make a difference to their communities. These have included water-pump generators and interactive board games.

Medway Hindu Youth Group, in Chatham, and Hayesbrook School, Tonbridge, were two of nine finalists in the South East shortlisted from more than 60 entrants.

They are being mentored by managers to help them prepare for a Dragons' Den-style final at Windsor Castle on December 15.

The winning group will receive a trophy and £5,000 to help develop their project.

Taking the salute

A FOLKESTONE student has become the first in the region to complete the British Army's further education bursary scheme.

Ashley Wilson, 19, swore his Oath of Allegiance at the Army Careers office in Dover on Tuesday. The scheme supported Ashley through his time at South West College in Middlesex.

The former Harvey Grammar pupil passed his BTEC National Diploma in public services in July and will now attend the Army Training Centre at Pirbright. He hopes to join the Royal Army Medical Corps.

Faculty goes beyond the purely academic

A NEW faculty has opened at Canterbury Christ Church University to give students and firms expert advice on business.

It will offer undergraduates and postgraduates a wide range of courses and give training to businesses.

Dr Gioia Pescetto, dean of the new faculty of business and management, said the development was an exciting step for the university and showed its commitment to working with local businesses.

"Although we have many years' experience working with business – from start-ups to large corporations – we are taking a new approach in supporting the business community," he said.

"Our aim is simple: by using our expertise in teaching, practice and research we aim to support and inspire leadership in business.

"We recognise that our graduates need to acquire skills and knowledge beyond the

By **MARIJKE COX**

marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

purely academic to succeed.

"The faculty will ensure our programmes are designed to equip our graduates with the leadership, entrepreneurial and innovative skills they need to compete in today's workplace.

"And for those already in work or for companies wishing to gain a competitive edge, we can offer continuing professional development with bespoke programmes on topics such as leadership and management or team and organisational development.

"Many of our courses are flexible around the working day, an important requirement for today's busy postgraduates."

Experts from the public and private sectors with backgrounds in teaching, professional practice and research will be on hand to help.

They have expertise in management and



LEARNING CURVE: Guests at the opening of Christ Church University's new faculty

leadership development, marketing, finance and accounting, human resources, risk management, strategy, and entrepreneurial and innovation skills.

Lord Lieutenant of Kent Allan Willett and Paul Barrett, managing director of Barrett's of Canterbury, officially opened the new centre at the North Holmes Road campus.

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A CANTERBURY College student is to have her Christmas card design sold in Paperchase stores across the country.

Vicky Bedwell, 18, from Hythe, won a competition to have her design printed after store bosses were impressed by her eye-catching creation. Vicky, pictured

with her card, was also awarded £100 of vouchers.

A Paperchase official said: "The students excelled in the competition and we were delighted with Vicky's winning design. It was a pleasure to work with Canterbury College. The staff and students were highly professional."



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Nr Dartford Require**
I Night Care Assistant
To work various night duties, mainly weekend
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To work 7am-2pm, mainly weekends
Experience is an advantage but not necessary as full
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your own transport
Please contact Margaret or Debbie **01322 224423**

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Excellent communication skills, sales & lettings back
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Basic Salary will be £13K - £15K dependant upon
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We are looking for an energetic and enthusiastic
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Breakdown, Recovery and Transportation
Company. A knowledge of the industry would be
an advantage, but it is essential to have a good
telephone manner, common sense and an ability to
think logically under pressure.
Apply in writing, including a CV to:
Personnel Director, Eclipse Recovery Services Ltd,
The Warren, Ratling Road, Ratling,
Canterbury, Kent CT3 3BD
Or call **01304 843011** for an Application Form.
Closing date: Friday 4th December 2009

Full Time Administrator
required for a training company based in
Womenswold, just outside Canterbury.
Duties to include typing, filing and general
administration.
Monday - Friday 8:30am to 5:00pm.
Please telephone Jeanette on **01227 833000**
or via email jeanette@amacetraining.co.uk
for further information
Closing date: 25th November 2009

Porsche Centre Tonbridge
Receptionist - Saturday 8-5pm
Competitive Salary and benefits
We are currently looking for an enthusiastic and
confident individual to work on our reception desk.
As the first point of contact you will need to have
an excellent telephone manner, be of smart
appearance and enjoy meeting and greeting
customers and making them feel welcome. Previous
experience in a similar role would be an advantage
but it is not essential as training will be provided.

To apply for this position, please send your CV to
Sharon Mallin, Porsche Centre Tonbridge,
Brook farm, Five Oak green Road, Tonbridge,
Kent TN11 0QN or email
sharon.mallin@porsche-tonbridge.co.uk



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Canterbury, Mon-Fri,
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Tel **01622 882492**

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Ideal applicants will possess City & Guilds and have
proven experience in the Motor Trade, semi-skilled
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A current CI Category Driving Licence is required.
The suitable applicants will be required to work a
shift rota which will include nights and weekends.
The remuneration package is dependent upon
experience but has the potential of high earnings.
Apply in writing, including a CV to:
Personnel Director, Eclipse Recovery Services Ltd,
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Or call **01304 843011** for an Application Form.
Closing date: Friday 4th December 2009

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£18,000 - £20,000 pa, Full-time,
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To apply: Send your CV with covering letter to
Jennifer Baniak-Hollands, Acorn Marketing Ltd.,
105 London Road, Dover, Kent CT16 3AA
jennifer@acorn.uk.net
Closing date: 18/12/09

Theatre Royal Margate
Addington Street, Margate, Kent, CT9 1PW
Technical & Production Manager – Theatre Royal Margate
Theatre Royal Margate is seeking an organised and motivated candidate with
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of Theatre Royal Margate. This is a full-time position, for a fixed term of two
years, working with and supported by the General Manager and Artistic Director
in a small and busy organisation.
Salary £25,000 - £27,000 p.a.
Closing Date for applications: Wednesday 23rd December 2009 at 12pm.
Interviews: w/c 4th January 2010
For an Application pack please visit our website:
www.theatreroyalmargate.com
You may also call **01843 282956** or email: admin@theatreroyalmargate.com
Application forms can be downloaded from our website:
www.theatreroyalmargate.com

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£17,745 per annum + £487 NVQ allowance
This is an exciting opportunity to lead a growing and
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This would be a great opportunity for someone who
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Must be able to work
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Please send CV to
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Experienced in all aspects of purchase ledger including invoice processing, reconciling statements, weekly payments, with experience on computerised accounting system.

Salary negotiable depending on experience.

Monday to Friday 9.00am until 5.30pm.

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We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.



Is this the job for you?

ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require the following staff to complement our team at our home in

BOBBING

SUPPORT WORKERS

Salary £13,250

For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com
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Must be reliable and hardworking.

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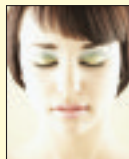
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Please telephone **01843 570638** or **01227 206473**
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Is this the job for you?

ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require the following staff to complement our team at our homes in

**STROOD &
GILLINGHAM**

www.achuk.com

SUPPORT WORKERS

(Strood) Salary £13,250

NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS

(Gillingham) Salary £13,250
35 hours per week

For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com

Alternatively e-mail laura.bell@achuk.com
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Computer literacy and attention to detail essential
Salary according to ability and experience

Please send C.V. to : Jon Baldwin, B M WINES Ltd.
Kent House, 81 Station Road, ASHFORD. TN23 1PP
Tel.: **01233-650954** e-mail : jon@bmwines.co.uk

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To find out more about Turner Contemporary and to apply for any of the above roles, go to: www.turnercontemporary.org

Closing date for applications: **Wed 16 December 2009**
Interviews will take place week commencing **4 & 11 January 2010**





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Required for February 2010
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25 hours per week term time only

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- Previous experience of working with children and families
- Good organisational skills and basic computer skills
- Flexibility - able to work before and after school when necessary

We can offer:

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Closing date: Friday 18 December 2009
Interview date: Thursday 14 January 2010

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Closing date - 8th December 2009

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Saint George's
Church of England School
Humanities College

Meadow Road, Gravesend
Kent DA11 7LS
Tel: 01474 533082
Fax: 01474 561536
HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC

Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College
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We are a school committed to inclusion and this is a key position to
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We are looking for someone with:

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- A commitment to discovering new ways to engage all students
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- Good organisational and interpersonal skills
- Vision, energy and a positive approach

You will join the school at an exciting time, and will have a major
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vision for continual improvement, you will develop programmes,
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All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks.
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Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescfe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website
www.saintgeorgescfe.kent.sch.uk

Closing Date: 04 December 2009

DOVER GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR BOYS
Business and Enterprise College
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**Early Intervention Project Worker
WAVE Project**

Employer	Dover Grammar School for Boys
Salary	£17,140
Location	Poltons Family Centre, Dover
Hours	37 hours per week
Closing Date	27 November 2009 at Midday
	1 year contract.

We are looking for a motivated person who is committed to supporting children, young
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WAVE is a multi agency, early intervention project. It is managed by a Principle Social Worker, there
are 2 Primary Mental Health Workers and 3 WAVE Project Workers in the team.

You will be expected to work with primary children and young people, parents/carers in a variety of
settings in school and in the community. You will be working with professionals from voluntary and
statutory agencies across both the Dover, Deal and Sandwich Partnerships.

You will be delivering support that will promote the social, emotional, and behavioural needs of
children and families in accordance with the Every Child Matters agenda.

You must be able to plan, prepare and deliver direct work in home and school settings and plan
and facilitate group work. Experience of work within a school and family setting is essential.

You will encourage independence, resilience and good emotional wellbeing through understanding
normal child development, attachment theory and emotional literacy, and have the ability to
effectively communicate with children and young people, their parents/carers and professionals
from other agencies.

You must have a flexible approach, a sound values base and be able to work effectively in a team
as well as independently and have a commitment to equal opportunities, good time management
and organisational skills, which will include good record keeping skills and the ability to
communicate clearly in writing.

You will be expected to travel throughout the district in undertaking your work. The Governors are
committed to safeguarding and ensuring the welfare of children.

This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

Please make your applications for the attention of:
Margot Wynne Poltons Family Centre Vale View Road Dover Kent CT17 9NR

TERM TIME TEACHERS

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MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Programme Area Leader in Childcare/Health and Social Care Ref: PAL06

Salary: £30,204 - £32,865 per annum

Programme Area Leader in Engineering Ref: P0219

Salary: £30,204 - £32,865 per annum

ESOL Programme Area Leader Ref: P0153

Salary: £30,204 - £32,865 per annum

Programme Area Leader in Art and Design Ref: P0383

Maternity Cover
Salary: £30,204 - £32,865 - per annum

We are looking to recruit exceptional candidates for the above roles to provide support to the Head of Faculty on all Staffing, Student, Curriculum and Quality issues. The successful candidates will be able to demonstrate a significant level of competence in Teaching and Learning, and have good negotiating/communication skills. The post holders will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Engineering/Civil Engineering Ref: P0678

Salary: £22,653 - £27,476 per annum

We are looking to recruit an outstanding individual to teach and participate in the development of programmes across the Faculty which includes Electronic, Electrical, Mechanical Engineering and Civil Engineering disciplines. The successful candidate will possess qualities of reliability, have good communication skills and hold an HNC/HND/Foundation degree or higher in one or more of the above Engineering specialism's. Previous industry experience is essential. The ideal candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Closing Date: Wednesday 16 December 2009

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer



SUTTON VALENCE SCHOOL
North Street, Sutton Valence,
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www.svs.org.uk

DOMESTIC CLEANER

Required to work Monday to Friday for 35 hours per week, with 4 weeks paid holiday plus bank holidays. Previous cleaning experience desirable. Further details may be requested from Stuart Harris, Estates Bursar: telephone 01622 845254 or email: harrisst@svs.org.uk

Closing date for applications: **7th December, 2009**



Instructor in Catering Ref: P0384

37 hours per week, 40 weeks per year

Salary: £16,749- £19,127 pro rata

We are looking for a passionate candidate to be involved in the Instruction and Assessment of a range of Catering and Hospitality programmes. The successful candidate will have proven knowledge and recent experience within the industry and hold the A1 and V1 award or be willing to work towards it.

Quality Administrator Ref: P0383

26 hours per week, 38 weeks per year

Salary: £15,607 - £17,750 pro rata

We are looking for a confident individual to provide administrative support to the Head of the Quality Department. The successful candidate will have the ability to work independently and to deadlines as well as excellent communication and IT skills.

Customer Service Advisor Ref: P0375

Salary: £15,225 - £17,402 per annum

We are looking for an exceptional individual to provide a comprehensive and efficient front-line service to the College students, staff and visitors. The successful candidate will be responsible for supporting the smooth running of the College reception. The ideal candidate will have excellent communication skills.

KSRC Technician Ref: P0647

15 hours per week

Salary: £18,433 - £22,367 pro rata

We are looking to recruit a science Technician to support the delivery of teaching and training at the Kent Science Resource Centre. The ideal candidate will have good interpersonal skills and a recognised qualification in a related science subject. Proven knowledge of a Biology or Chemistry laboratory environment is essential.

Painter/Decorator Ref: P0335

Salary: £18,433 - £20,974 per annum

Night shifts

We are looking for a hardworking individual to maintain the good decorative order of the College. The successful candidate will hold a recognised qualification in painting and decorating and experience within the industry would be advantageous. The ability to self motivate and self manage is essential due to the working pattern.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

KOS MEDIA (PUBLISHING) LTD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
- It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
- All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
- All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
- Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
- Copyright and licenses for voice-over/music/photography or film for advertising promotions or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, online and moving film owned by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser where applicable. Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential beneficial owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.
- Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will NOT apply to full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation placing an advertisement on behalf of another.
- A guarantee of insertion cannot be given and the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error inaccuracy within your marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owners for that advertising.
- No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
- Claims for any error or inaccuracy in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be made in writing to the accounts department within 10 days of publishing.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their websites by the advertiser.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd has the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership without notice should the advertiser deliberately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd will seek to recover, in full, all outstanding invoices in relation to the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to claim damages for any potential vesitious action via the advertiser.
- Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
- A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009) and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
- Seasonal contracts. Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
- All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
- The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd within the advertiser's agreement. (Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). Should, for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production at its standard published hourly rate should the advertiser still wish to use KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's production services to complete its TV commercial or photographic imagery included in the advertiser's agreement. The advertiser will approve and accept that there are only two choices of voice-over and music offered by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Should an advertiser wish to use other voice-over or non-copyright free music it is the responsibility of the advertiser to pay the PRS rights should they be required to do so. Any changes to or failure to approve the TV production by the deadlines agreed between both parties will result in KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to replace the TV commercial with pictures or stills from a choice of photography supplied by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside of this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
- Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
- Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd as a result of any action as a result of the public or otherwise is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
- All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice, time of the essence. All sums due to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.
- In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract and make any surcharges for breaking the contract.
- In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.
- Notwithstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.
- The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.
- Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
- Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
- Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
- All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
- The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
- An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
- Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from June 2008

Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR
Tel 01303 817040 Fax 01303 817004
Email: info@kosmedia.co.uk



Award winning publications

www.kentnews.co.uk

To advertise in this section
01303 817040



Colyer Road, Northfleet
Gravesend, Kent DA11 8BG
Head: Jane Partridge

GRADUATE TEACHER PROGRAMME

In collaboration with Canterbury Christ Church University College,
we wish to offer the following:

**Trainee placement on the following Graduate Teacher
Programmes from Sept 2010**

Science English Music Maths Design Technology

The successful candidate will receive training from experienced teachers at Northfleet Technology College supplemented by a number of days provided by Canterbury University.

The successful person must have at least 50% of their degree in their chosen subject. They need to be organised, self motivated and able to work independently. Salary will be £15,461

This very popular school of 900 boys, awarded specialist status in September 2003, is situated in the 'Thames Gateway' area of Kent, with excellent links to nearby London and the Channel coast. NTC is an exciting environment to work in, which is committed to the principle of lifelong learning for students and staff. There is a well established ethos of professional development for all our employees. We are looking for enthusiastic, hardworking individuals to join our team and if you enjoy working with young people, relish a challenge and feel you have the necessary skills for this post we would like to hear from you. Please contact Mrs Gill Taylor, our Initial Teacher Coordinator, for an informal chat about this opportunity and for further details.

An application form can be obtained from the school by telephone 01474 533802, fax 01474 536122 or by email taylorg@ntc.kent.sch.uk. Please enclose/attach your CV. Do check our web site: www.ntc.kent.sch.uk. Closing Date is Friday Dec 11th 2009



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that match your
selected criteria

JobsforKent.co.uk

The smart way to find
a job in the County

POWERED BY KOS MEDIA

Innovative thinker. Inspiring teacher.

Part-time Lecturers
in Numeracy and
Functional Skills

0.5fte, 18.5 hrs
£11,880 - £16,333 pa
Tonbridge

Joining us at an exciting stage in our development, you will be part of a team that has already built considerable expertise in the delivery of functional skills. This is your opportunity to influence the future direction of this vocationally-oriented department, as we work to fully integrate mathematical and numeracy skills across the College's curricula.

Proven experience of teaching Numeracy and GCSE Maths to young adults is essential, combined with the ability to teach learners at all levels. A Level 4/5 specialist qualification in Adult Numeracy would be ideal.

This College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our users and expects all staff to share this commitment, in order for all to achieve their full potential. The successful applicant will be required to undertake a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check and to provide proof of your right to work in the UK.

**To find out more, view our full list of opportunities and apply online,
visit www.wkc.ac.uk Alternatively call 01732 376511 or email
hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk Please quote ref: KOS14**

Closing date: 12noon on 10th December 2009

west kent
college



Find a job online



Register your details and
we'll email you daily with
new jobs that match your
selected criteria

JobsforKent.co.uk

The smart way to find a job in the County

Community Liaison Officer
Grade: C2 – Salary: £19,621- £26,276
Hours: 37 hours per week – 52 weeks a year
(variable in accordance with the needs
of the Children's Centre)
Location: Miers Court Primary School
Silverspot Close Rainham Gillingham Kent ME8 8JR
Tel: 01634 388943 or e-mail:
office@mierscourt.medway.sch.uk

**Would you like to be part of the exciting new Children's Centre at Miers
Court Primary School?**

We are seeking to recruit a Community Liaison Officer to join our enthusiastic team as we prepare to open our brand new children's centre. Someone who welcomes new challenges, has an excellent sense of humour and is willing to lead a team offering new projects for local families with young children and working in partnership with a range of local agencies.

Applicants should have:

- education to degree level or relevant experience
- the skills to involve families with young children within a diverse community and become active in the community.
- a good knowledge of the local community.
- excellent communication and leadership skills.
- the ability to maintain systems and a wide range of records and written reports.
- the aspiration for excellence in services for children and families
- a commitment to equal opportunities in service delivery and employment.
- an enthusiasm to develop good working relationships with a wide range of partners, agencies and individuals.
- a desire to keep abreast of current developments, research and best practice, and to review, evaluate and implement change accordingly.

Informal visits to the school are most welcome.

**Offer of appointment is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records
Bureau Disclosure.**

**To find out more about this exciting role or to arrange a visit please contact:
Mrs Sue McCracken, Headteacher, on Tel: 01634 388943 or email
patts004@medway.org.uk
Closing Date: 15th December 2009**



Accountancy

Purchase Ledger Clerk

Ramsgate

Salary: TBA

Purchase Ledger Clerk Required

Experienced in all aspects of

purchase ledger including invoice

processing, reconciling

statements, weekly payments,

with experience on computerised

accounting system. Salary

negotiable depending on

experience. Monday to Friday

9.00am until 5.30pm. Please send

CV's to Alistair Mackay-Miller,

Piper Double Glazing Limited, 140

Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent

CT12 6PP or by e-mail to

ron@pipervindows.co.uk. We are

an Equal Opportunities Employer.

To apply/more information:

Piper Windows

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Email ron@pipervindows.co.uk

Administration, Secretarial, PA

PERSONNEL and OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Sevenoaks

Salary: £16,649 per annum

PERSONNEL & OFFICE

ADMINISTRATOR who will also

carry out Reception duties 1 day

per week. Must have good literacy,

numeracy and IT skills. 35-37 hour

week with some flexibility Starting

Salary £16,649 per annum (FTE)

Contact Jay Drake, Personnel

Manager on 01732 458762 for

more details and an application

pack.

To apply/more information:

Rockdale House

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01732 458762

Email enquiries@rockdale.org.uk

Receptionist

Tonbridge

Salary: TBA

Saturday 8 - 5pm Competitive

Salary & benefits We are currently

looking for an enthusiastic and

confident individual to work on our

reception desk. As the first point of

contact you will need to have an

excellent telephone manner, be of

smart appearance and enjoy

meeting and greeting customers

and making them feel welcome.

Previous experience in a similar

role would be advantage but it is

not essential as training will be

provided. To apply for this position,

please send your CV to Sharon

Mallin, Prosche Centre Tonbridge,

Brock Farm, Five Oak Green Road,

Tonbridge, Kent TN11 0ON or

email sharon.

mallin@proschetonbridge.co.uk

To apply/more information:

Porsche Centre Tonbridge

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Email sharon.mallin@

proschetonbridge.co.uk

OFFICE MANAGER

Canterbury

Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:

Meditation Trust

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01843 841010

Email

applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Catering, Hospitality

Coffeshop Supervisor

Canterbury

Salary: TBA

Coffeshop Supervisor (P/T)

Canterbury Food Services

Assistant (P/T) Maidstone Excellent

Customer Service Skills & Food

Standards No late nights - no

Sundays. Apply to: Andrea

Thorneycroft 01892 773611

andrea@candhfabrics.co.uk or in

store.

To apply/more information:

C & H Fabrics

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01892 773611

Email andrea@candhfabrics.co.uk

Food Services Assistant

Maidstone

Salary: TBA

Coffeshop Supervisor (P/T)

Canterbury Food Services

Assistant (P/T) Maidstone Excellent

Customer Service Skills & Food

Standards No late nights - no

Sundays. Apply to: Andrea

Thorneycroft 01892 773611

andrea@candhfabrics.co.uk or in

store.

To apply/more information:

C & H Fabrics

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01892 773611

Email andrea@candhfabrics.co.uk

Experienced Commis Chef

Maidstone

Salary: TBA

Souffle Restaurant, Bearsted

Experienced Commis Chef required

to join our professional team A

perfect opportunity to progress

within award winning restaurant.

Please call 01622 737065.

To apply/more information:

Souffle Restaurant

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01622 737065

Email karenevenden@hotmail.com

Chef

Maidstone

Salary: TBA

Kings Head, Sutton Valence

Require full time Chef and part

time Bar and waiting staff Own

transport an advantage Call 01622

843264.

To apply/more information:

King's Head

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01622 843264

Email

applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Bar and Waiting Staff

Maidstone

Salary: TBA

Kings Head, Sutton Valence

Require full time Chef and part

time Bar and waiting staff Own

transport an advantage Call 01622

843264.

To apply/more information:

King's Head

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01622 843264

Email

applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

WAIT STAFF AND BAR/ COCKTAIL STAFF

Ramsgate

Salary: TBA

WAIT STAFF & BAR / COCKTAIL

STAFF wanted for fine dining

restaurant in Ramsgate.

Experience essential. Must be able

to work weekends and evenings.

Please send CV to

info@ageandsons.co.uk

To apply/more information:

Age & Sons

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Email info@ageandsons.co.uk

Child Care

Playgroup Staff

Tunbridge Wells

Salary: TBA

St George's Project - Little

Dragons Playgroup Afternoons

from January 2010 Qualified staff

required Call Teresa/Fran 01892

543982

info@stgeorgesproject.co.uk

To apply/more information:

St George's Project

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01892 543982

Email info@stgeorgesproject.co.uk

Child and Family Liaison Officer

Dover

Salary: £16,793 - £18,471 pro rata

Eythorne Elvington Community

Primary School Adelaide Road,

Eythorne, Dover CT15 4AN

Telephone 01304 830376 Email:

office@eythorne-elvington.kent.sch.uk

Required for February

2010 Child and Family Liaison

Officer Salary range: £16,793 -

£18,471 pro rata 25 hours per

week term time only We are

looking for someone with:

• A good basic education

• Previous experience of working with

children and families

• Good organisational skills and basic

PUBLIC NOTICES**Town and Country Planning Acts**

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

- 09/03458/FUL Beacon Mill House Rolvenden Road, Benenden**
- Conversion and extension of windmill for use as holiday let (LB)
- 09/03461/LBC Beacon Mill House Rolvenden Road, Benenden**
- Listed Building Consent - Conversion and extension of windmill for use as holiday let (LB)
- 09/03472/LBC Mill House Mill Street, Benenden**
- Listed Building Consent - Demolish and rebuild existing damaged cellar wall and replace damaged concrete floor, both works to incorporate tanking layer to waterproof cellar (LB)
- 09/03427/LBC Lydd Farmhouse Sychem Lane, Capel**
- Listed Building Consent - Renovation (LB)
- 09/03423/FUL Flat2nd Floor The Tunbridge Wells & Counties Bridge Club, Culverden**
- Alterations to internal partition layout and renewal of windows (CA)(LB)
- 09/03425/LBC Flat2nd Floor The Tunbridge Wells & Counties Bridge Club, Culverden**
- Listed Building Consent - Alterations to internal partition layout and renewal of windows (LB)
- 09/03428/HOUSE Hollin House Court Road, Culverden**
- Two timber and steel carports (CA)
- 09/03528/HOUSE Bankside Town Hill, Lamberhurst**
- Demolition and rebuild of Grade II listed outbuilding (CA)(LB)
- 09/03531/LBC Bankside Town Hill, Lamberhurst**
- Listed Building Consent - Demolition and rebuild of Grade II listed outbuilding (LB)
- 09/01725/LBC 33A-33F The Pantiles Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Listed Building Consent - Installation of 80cm communal satellite antenna at roof level for the residents (LB)
- 09/03562/HOUSE 4 Poona Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Demolition of existing single storey side extension. Replacement with single storey side extension, two storey in-fill rear extension and single storey rear extension (CA)
- 09/03297/LBC Bradford & Bingley Building Society 28 Monson Road, Park**
- Listed Building Consent - Update internal ground floor of branch including new furniture, redecoration works, counter and stud partitions (work commenced) (LB)
- 09/03466/HOUSE 12 Lansdowne Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**
- Single storey rear extension with cellar below having an access moat (CA)
- 09/03525/HOUSE Hartridge Manor Farm Paley Lane, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish**
- Single-storey rear extension and alterations (LB)
- 09/03526/LBC Hartridge Manor Farm Paley Lane, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish**
- Listed Building Consent - Single-storey rear extension and alterations (LB)
- 09/03527/FUL Little Hartridge Barn Paley Lane, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish**
- Link two detached cart lodges with single-storey new-build link and convert to one two-bed dwelling with associated parking and landscaping (LB)
- 09/03529/FUL Hartridge Manor Oast Paley Lane, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish**
- Conversion and reconstruction of roundels to create residential dwelling with detached garage (LB)(PROW)
- 09/03530/LBC Hartridge Manor Oast Paley Lane, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish**
- Listed Building Consent - Conversion and reconstruction of roundels to create residential dwelling with detached garage (LB)
- 09/03533/HOUSE Hartridge Manor Farm Paley Lane, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish**
- Detached garage (LB)
- 09/03534/FUL Hartridge Manor Oast Paley Lane, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish**
- Conversion and reconstruction of roundels to create residential dwelling with integral garage(LB)(PROW)
- 09/03536/LBC Little Hartridge Barn Paley Lane, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish**
- Listed Building Consent - Link two detached cart lodges with single-storey new-build link and convert to one two-bed dwelling with associated parking and landscaping (LB)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS
Dated: 27 November 2009

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL****TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS – NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS**

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

TM/09/01255/FL – Willow Cottage 17 Brook Lane Snodland Kent ME6 5JS – Mr Mark Fraser is applying for single storey rear extension. Reason: LB HH

TM/09/02715/FL – South East Water Ltd Rocfort Road Snodland Kent ME6 5NQ – South East Water are applying for erection of external galvanised mild steel escape stair from first floor at the rear of the Swan building at headquarters. Reason: CA

TM/09/02636/FL – Propagation Unit Park Farm Bradbourne Lane Ditton Aylesford Kent ME20 6SN – East Malling Trust For Horticultural Research are applying for renovation of existing offices. Reason: CA

TM/09/02174/FL – 2 - 4 High Street West Malling Kent ME19 6NG – Mr Stephen Weekes is applying for part change of use of offices to D1 use. Reason: CA

TM/09/02697/FL – 45 Bradbourne Lane Ditton Aylesford Kent ME20 6PD – Hillreed Homes are applying for two detached houses with garages (Substitution of Plots A and B approved under application TM/08/00088/FL). Reason: GPI CA

TM/09/02790/FL – 1 Cedar Cottages Taylors Lane Trottscliffe West Malling Kent ME19 5DS – Mr John Wickham is applying for rear conservatory. Reason: CA HH

TM/09/02796/FL – 300 - 302 Pratling Street Aylesford Kent – Mr Stephen Sharp is applying for temporary siting of mobile home for use during renovation works to cottages Estimated duration 6-9 months. Reason: LB

Reasons for the case being publicised:

- LB** Application relates to/affects a Listed Building or its setting
CA Application is within/affects a Conservation Area
GPI Application is of general Public Interest
HH Householder application - As this is a householder application, in the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, which is to be dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any representations made about this application will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment at appeal stage.

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk – click on the button “Online Planning” (then View Existing Applications and select Public Access). You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council’s website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 20 December 2009.

David Hughes
Chief Executive
29 November 2009



To advertise in this section

01303 817040

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004****APPROVED PREMISES FOR
CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Mansion House, 39 Grove Hill Road, Tunbridge Wells**
Sharon Birch

Applicant:

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
1st Floor
Invicta House
Maidstone, ME14 1XX



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**CURRICULUM LEADER
INCLUSION (SENCO)**

Gravesend
Salary: TLR1b (£8,975)
Closing Date: 4 December 2009
To apply/more information:
St George's CoE School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email dharirwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

**Community Liaison
Officer**

Medway
Salary: £19,621 - £26,276
Closing Date: 15th December 2009
To apply/more information:
Miers Court Primary School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 389943
Email pattis004@medway.org.uk

**Part-time Lecturer
in Skills for Life/
Springboard**

Tonbridge
Salary: £11,880 - £16,333 pa
Closing Date: 12noon on 3rd December 2009
To apply/more information:
West Kent College

Quoting Job Ref: KOS13
Tel: 01732 376511
Email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk

**MATERNITY COVER
ASSISTANTS**

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 8th December 2009
CITY VIEW PRE-SCHOOL & NURSERIES LTD City View Pre-school and Nursery, Beaucherne Primary School, City View, Canterbury, Kent CT2 8PT **MATERNITY COVER ASSISTANTS** required for extended hours, term time only Pre-school in Canterbury. To commence employment from January 2010. Possible long term contract available. Pre-school experience essential. Enhanced CRB check will be sought for successful candidate. Application packs will be sent to those leaving a name/address clearly on 01227 784694 or please email mrsdawn.williams@virgin.net.
To apply/more information:
City View Pre-School & Nursery
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 784694
Email mrsdawn.williams@virgin.net

**GRADUATE TEACHER
PROGRAMME**

Gravesend
Salary: £15,461

GRADUATE TEACHER PROGRAMME
In collaboration with Canterbury Christ Church University College, we wish to offer the following: Trainee placement on the following Graduate Teacher Programmes from Sept 2010 Science English, Music, Maths Design technology. The successful candidate will receive training from experienced teachers at Northfleet Technology College supplemented by a number of days provided by Canterbury University. The successful person must have at least 50% of their degree in their chosen subject. They need to be organised, self motivated and able to work independently. Salary will be £15,461 This very popular school of 900 boys, awarded specialist status in September 2003, is situated in the 'Thames Gateway' area of Kent, with excellent links to nearby London and the Channel coast. NTC is an exciting environment to work in, which is committed to the principle of lifelong learning for students and staff. There is a well established ethos of professional development for all our employees. We are looking for enthusiastic, hardworking individuals to join our team and if you enjoy working with young people, relish a challenge and feel you have the necessary skills for this post we

would like to hear from you. Please contact Mrs Gill Taylor, our Initial Teacher Coordinator, for an informal chat about this opportunity and for further details. An application form can be obtained from the school by telephone 01474 533802, fax 01474 536122 or by email tailorg@ntc.kent.sch.uk. Please enclose/attach your CV. Do check our web site: www.ntc.kent.sch.uk.
To apply/more information:
Northfleet Technology College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 533802
Email tailorg@ntc.kent.sch.uk

**Estate Agency,
Property****Senior Lettings
Negotiator**

Rochester
Salary: £13K - £15K
Closing Date: 30 November 2009
Senior Lettings Negotiator. Belvoir Lettings Rochester are looking to recruit a full time experienced negotiator. An understanding of the lettings process is essential. Excellent communication skills, sales & lettings back ground, Basic IT literacy, and a full/clean driver's licence are essential. Basic Salary

will be £13K - £15K dependant upon experience - Targeted earnings of £18K - £20K. Applications in writing with a current C.V. by 30/11/2009 to: Mr. P Huane, Belvoir Lettings Rochester, 8 Victoria Street, Rochester, Kent ME1 1XH.
To apply/more information:
Belvoir Lettings
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

**Industrial,
Warehouse,
Factory****Experienced Sewing
Machinists**

Gillingham
Salary: TBA
Experienced Sewing Machinists required for Clothing Factory Full-time. Gillingham area. Please call 01634 843181 or email ella@raynerandsturges.com
To apply/more information:
Rayner & Sturges Shirtmakers
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 843181
Email ella@raynerandsturges.com

**Order Pickers/
warehouse staff**

Kent
Salary: £5.80-£7/hr
Order Pickers/warehouse staff, various locations and shifts for IMMEDIATE START!!! Must have own transport!!! £5.80-£7/hr. Please call Jenny at Berry Recruitment on 01622 609570 (any).
To apply/more information:
Berry Recruitment
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 609570
Email jenny.franklin@berryrecruitment.co.uk

**Information
Tech, Internet,
Telecoms****MI Analyst**

Folkestone
Salary: c£25,000
To apply/more information:
Holiday Extras
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Web Developer

Folkestone
Salary: c£22,000

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Email Template Builer

Folkestone

Salary: c£18,000
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Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

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Architect**

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Salary: c£400 per day
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Program Manager

Folkestone
Salary: c£400 per day
We are a dynamic team where you can really make your mark.... We get results in our state of the art building set in landscaped gardens and can offer a vibrant atmosphere and excellent opportunities to make a difference. We unleash the enthusiasm and expertise of our people and have won the Sunday Times "Best Companies to work for" award four times. After spectacular growth in 2008, and as the market leader in Holiday Add-ons, (Airport Parking, Hotels & Theatre/Theme Park breaks) we now employ 900 people across the UK & Germany

PUBLIC NOTICES

HIGHWAYS - District of Ashford

SHENLEY ROAD, SMARDEN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of essential carriageway repairs, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Shenley Road, Smarden between the junction with Bell Lane and 'West Hoy Farm', on or after 14 December 2009 for an estimated period of 2 days or until the works are complete.

There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions of Bell Lane and White House Lane. The alternative route for through traffic will be via Bell Lane, A274 Biddenden Road and Shenley Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of essential carriageway repairs, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Highfield Road, Ripley Road and Wotton Road, Ashford, as shown below. This is due to commence on or after 14 December 2009 for an estimated period of up to one week, or until the works are complete.

Road Name: Highfield Road, Ashford
Extent: Between the junctions with Sevington Lane and Ealham Close
Dates: Week commencing 14 December 2009 for up to one day during off peak hours
Diversions: Highfield Road, Church Road and Sevington Lane

Road Name: Ripley Road, Ashford
Extent: From the junction with Highfield Road to outside number 19 Ripley Road
Dates: Week commencing 14 December 2009 for up to one day during off peak hours
Diversions: Ripley Road, Evans Road, Collard Road, Luckhurst Road and Highfield Road

Road Name: Wotton Road, Ashford
Extent: Between the junctions with Tennyson Road and Malcolm Sargent Road.
Dates: Week commencing 14 December 2009 for one night
Diversions: Wotton Road, Kingsnorth Road, Ashford Road, Romney Marsh Road and Malcolm Sargent Road

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

GAS STREET, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of essential carriageway repairs, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic along the whole length of Gas Street, Canterbury on or after 30 November 2009 for an estimated period of 3 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Castle Street, Rosemary Lane and Church Street.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

VARIOUS ROADS, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageway Surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on various roads, Dover from as described in column 1 of the attached schedule on or after 1 December 2009 for an estimated period of as described in column 3 of the attached schedule or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as described in the "diversion" row below.

Road Name: Priory Road
Extent: Between Folkestone Road and Ladywell
Dates: 1 December 2009 for two nights
Diversions: York Street, Townwall Street, Woolcomber street, Castle Hill Road, Connaught Road, Park Avenue, Park Street, Park Place and Ladywell

Road Name: Effingham Street, Dover
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: 1 December 2009 for two nights
Diversions: Dover District Council (Various Roads, Dover) (Consolidation of Waiting Restrictions and One Way Traffic etc) Order 1990 Schedule 14 is temporarily suspended for the duration of this order

Road Name: Effingham Street, Dover
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: 1 December 2009 for two nights
Diversions: Dover District Council (Various Roads, Dover) (Consolidation of Waiting Restrictions and One Way Traffic etc) Order 1990 Schedule 14 is temporarily suspended for the duration of this order

Road Name: Sandwich Road, Whitfield
Extent: Between Beaufield and A2 roundabout
Dates: 2 December 2009 for seven nights
Diversions: A2, A256 and Sandwich Road

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

WELL STREET, LOOSE (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Well Street, Loose on or after Monday 14th December 2009 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is for eastbound traffic via Forstal Lane, Stockett Lane, New Cut, Busbridge Road, Well Street and for westbound traffic vice versa.

EDF Energy apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to install a new electricity supply. Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Mark Apps of Murphy Limited on 07920 150842.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

HEVER ROAD, HEVER (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Hever Road, Hever 500m from Hever Golf Club.

The Order will become effective on 30th November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 week. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: B2027 Clinton Lane, B2027 Four Elms Road, B2026 High Street Edenbridge, Hever Road Edenbridge and Hever Road Hever.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate bank stabilisation and patching works.

HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

FEATHERBED LANE, SELLING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because the installation of anti Badger fencing and verge strimming, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Featherbed Lane approximately mid way along the lane, on or after 30 November 2009 for an estimated duration of two hours during the off peak period or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Featherbed Lane, Selling Road and the road known locally as Hogben's Hill.

B2231 LOWER ROAD, MINSTER-ON-SEA (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of essential carriageway repairs, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on the B2231 Lower Road (Forty Acres Hill), Minster-on-Sea, from the roundabout junction with Thistle Hill Way to the junction with Scocles Road. This is scheduled to commence on or after 15 December 2009 for an estimated period of one night or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Lower Road, Barton Hill Drive, Minster Road, High Street (eastbound only), Back Lane and Scocles Road.

SELLING ROAD, FAVERSHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of essential carriageway repairs, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Selling Road, Faversham, from the bridge over the M2 motorway for a distance of 150 metres northwards, on or after 14 December 2009, for an estimated period of one day or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via A2 Canterbury Road, A251 Ashford Road, Newhouse Lane, Winding Hill, Featherbed Lane, and Selling Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

CANTERBURY ROAD, WESTGATE-ON-SEA (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of essential carriageway repairs, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Canterbury Road, Westgate-on-Sea, on the westbound carriageway in the vicinity of the speed safety camera, on or after 30 November 2009. This is for an estimated period of 2 nights, between the hours of 7.00 pm and 1.00 am.

The alternative route for westbound through traffic will be via Minster Road, Shottendane Road, Manston Road and Park Lane.

PRIORY ROAD, RAMSGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageway Surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Priory Road, Ramsgate for its entire length on or after 30 November 2009 for an estimated period of two nights or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Paragon, Addington Street, West Cliff Road and Royal Road.

This order will come into force on Monday 30 November 2009, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



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Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Integration Architec

Folkestone
Salary: c£400 per day
To apply/more information: Holiday Extras
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Technical and Production Manager

Margate
Salary: £25,000 - £27,000 p.a.
Closing Date: Wednesday 23rd
To apply/more information: Theatre Royal Margate
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01843 282956
Email admin@theatroyalmargate.com

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To apply/more information: Arriba
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 664861
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Motor Trade, Driver

ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE MECHANICS

Canterbury

Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday 4th December 2009
To apply/more information: Eclipse Recovery Services Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 843011
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

NIGHT CONTROL ROOM OPERATOR

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday 4th
To apply/more information: Eclipse Recovery Services Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 843011
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Community Care Workers

Romney Marsh
Salary: TBA
We require part time or full time Community Care Workers for Ashford and the Marsh. Applicants must have their own vehicle. We offer flexible shifts, which include

mornings, evenings and weekends. We provide full training, uniform, equipment, CRB check and weekly pay at good rates. Fax No. 01787 367493.
To apply/more information: Country Folk Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01797 361889
Email countryfolkcare@hotmail.co.uk

Assistant Manager

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Assistant Manager. Required For Residential Care Home In Folkestone We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person. Must have Minimum NVQ Level 3 Qualification, and Experience in the role above. Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254018 Subject to satisfactory CRB Check
To apply/more information: Cumbria House Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 254019
Email cumbriahouse@ashwoodhealthcare.co.uk

SELF-EMPLOYED HOMECARE SUPPORT WORKERS

Tonbridge

Salary: £8.25 to £10.00 per hour
To apply/more information: TerraBlu Ltd
Tel: 01580 240118
Email cg-@hotmail.co.uk

Weekend Carers

Kent
Salary: £7.25 to £9.50 per/hr
Weekend Carers required! £7.25 to £9.50 per/hr NVQ2 desirable, car essential Call: Ashton Macey Ltd on 01732 523477 (office hours).
To apply/more information: Ashton Macey Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 523477
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Waking Night Carer

Cranbrook
Salary: TBA
We are a care home for adults with a learning disability and require Waking Night Carer To cover waking night shifts from 10pm-8am Mon, Fri and Sat nights. Full training will be given. Own transport essential due to location. Any job offer is subject to full CRB check. Please contact The Grange on 01580 240118 to arrange an informal interview.
To apply/more information: Grange (The)

Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01580 240118
Email cg-@hotmail.co.uk

1 Night Care Assistant

Dartford
Salary: TBA
Care Home in Darenth, Nr Dartford Require 1 Night Care Assistant To work various night duties, mainly weekend 1 Part Time Care Assistant To work 7am-2pm, mainly weekend Experience is an advantage but not necessary as full training will be provided Due to location you will need your own transport Please contact Margaret or Debbie on 01322 224423.
To apply/more information: Darenth Grange Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01322 224423
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

1 Part Time Care Assistant

Dartford
Salary: TBA
Care Home in Darenth, Nr Dartford Require 1 Night Care Assistant To work various night duties, mainly weekend 1 Part Time Care Assistant To work 7am-2pm, mainly weekend Experience is an advantage but not necessary as full training will be provided Due to

location you will need your own transport Please contact Margaret or Debbie on 01322 224423.
To apply/more information: Darenth Grange Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01322 224423
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

CARE Staff

Tonbridge
Salary: From £7ph
CARE Staff Weekend Days and Nights available for experienced, reliable and caring people From £7ph - East Peckham. For an interview please call Kevin on 01622 871081.
To apply/more information: Kevin
Hale Place Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 871081
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

PRACTICE NURSE

Romney Marsh
Salary: TBA
PRACTICE NURSE Required 16 hours per week in a busy surgery in New Romney, Kent. Chronic Disease Management desirable but not essential. Salary according to experience. Please contact: Practice Manager or

Nurse Manager on 0844 8151174/5 or email: aallaway@nhs.net
To apply/more information: Darenth Grange Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0844 8151174/5
Email aallaway@nhs.net

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Sales People

Kent
Salary: TBA
Black Tie Foods Ltd Sales People required No experience necessary. Full training and vehicle provided. Call 01732 760484
To apply/more information: Black Tie Foods Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 760484
Email blacktie@btconnect.com

Direct Sales Agents

Kent
Salary: £75k OTE
To apply/more information: Homeform Group Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01708 864684
Email gary.weston@mkdh.co.uk

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Cruising on – Toyota's new mud-busting star

By **STEVE LOADER**

THERE is a perception that Toyota's early Land Cruiser aped and also traded on a similar-sounding name to a certain British 4x4.

But the LC's origins pre-dated the Land Rover, with Toyota's first efforts being based on an early version of the classic American Jeep, captured during the Japanese WWII invasion of the Philippines in 1941.

Coincidentally, Toyota was also later asked to build a modified Jeep for US forces serving in the Korean War of the early 1950s, but while it gained a reputation for go-anywhere ruggedness and reliability, it then did so without a second and lower set of gear ratios as found on the American original.

The vehicle evolved into the Land



Cruiser of 1954 and was being exported by the end of the decade, eventually going global and arguably eclipsing the Land Rover and Jeep as the 4x4 car you could bank on – now complete with the lower ratios for ultimate off-roading.

And while its arch rivals get better looking and more luxurious – the Land Rover Discovery now seems almost pointlessly close to being a Range Rover – the Land Cruiser looks as utilitarian as



it always has and is none the worse for it. An all-new version is in showrooms early in December, but only an anorak would really spot the visual differences.

It is still big, beefy and bound to be bulletproof, with the option to seat up to seven in a five-door body powered by a no-nonsense 171bhp 3.0-litre D-4D engine with five-speed auto transmission.

For this amount of off-roading and towing talent it seems remarkably cost-

effective too, priced from £29,795-44,795.

However, beneath the familiar chunkiness, Toyota says it has new handling and driver assistance systems for even better off-roading, while also boosting on-road ability – where it was losing ground to Jeep and Land Rover – for more everyday poise, comfort and performance.

Though rear load space is always compromised by the big rear transmission in 4x4s, necessitating a higher floor, the LC's cargo area has been increased and can now also be loaded through a lift-up glass hatch without having to open the full side-hinged tailgate.

There is a 'Multi-Terrain Monitor' on flagship models too, using front and side view cameras so that this big yet nimble vehicle can be manoeuvred carefully in the tightest off-road – or parking – situations.



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08 58 FORD FUSION 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE SILVER METALLIC 6000 MILES.....	£9995
08 58 FORD FUSION 1-4 STYLE CLIMATE SILVER METALLIC 5000 MILES.....	£9495
08 58 PEUGEOT 107 2-TRONIC 3DR AUTO PAS RED 1400 MILES.....	£7995
08 58 PEUGEOT 107 2-TRONIC 3DR AUTO PAS RED 200 MILES.....	£7995
08 58 NEW CORSA 1-2 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR ICE BLUE 4000 MILES.....	£8995
08 58 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE SILVER 7000 MILES.....	£8995
08 58 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C HATCH SILVER 7000 MILES.....	£8995
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08 58 RENAULT CLIO 1-6 EXPRESSION 3DR AUTO PAS 750 MILES.....	£9495
08 58 TOYOTA AURIS TR AUTO PAS AIR/C DIESEL 5DR GREY 4000 MILES.....	£11995
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08 57 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS FLAME 6000 MILES.....	£13495
07 57 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC SPORT AUTO PAS INFERNO 7000 MILES.....	£10995
07 57 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 5000 MILES.....	£13495
06 56 MICRA 1-6 SPORT CONVERT AUTO PAS ALLOYS BLUE 12000 MILES.....	£9995
06 56 MICRA 1-6 ESSENZA CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 18000 MILES.....	£9995
06 56 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS GREY 16000 MILES.....	£10995
06 56 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 19000 MILES.....	£10495
06 56 MICRA 1-6 ESSENZA CONVERT AUTO PAS SILVER 28000 MILES.....	£9995
06 56 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 21000 MILES.....	£9995
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07 57 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR BLACK 8000 MILES.....	£8995
07 07 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR GREEN 4000 MILES.....	£8495
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07 57 FOCUS 1-6 STYLE ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C MOONDUST SILVER 1900 MILES.....	£8995
07 57 FOCUS 1-6 STYLE AUTO PAS AIR/C MOONDUST SILVER 7000 MILES.....	£8995
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06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4DR ALLOYS SILVER 21000 MILES.....	£7495
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06 56 MONDEO 2-0 GHIA AUTO PAS 5DR SILVER METALLIC 23000 MILES.....	£9495
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08 08 CITROEN C3 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES.....	£9995
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06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3DR AUTO PAS SILVER 23000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 5DR AUTO PAS SILVER 11000 MILES.....	£6995
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07 57 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SILVER BLUE 17000 MILES.....	£10995
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06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SEA GREY 16000 MILES.....	£9995
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06 56 HONDA CR-V SPORT AUTO PAS SILVER AIR/C 17000 MILES.....	£12995
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08 08 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS MET GREY 5000 MILES.....	£6995
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08 08 TOYOTA YARIS T3 AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR ALLOYS BLACK 8000 MILES.....	£9495
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04 54 TOYOTA YARIS VERSO 1-3 T3 AUTO PAS CHAMPAGNE 6000 MILES.....	£7495
02 02 TOYOTA YARIS VERSO 1-3 GLS AUTO PAS SILVER 22000 MILES.....	£5995
02 51 TOYOTA YARIS VERSO 1-3 GLS AUTO PAS BLUE 52000 MILES.....	£4995
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08 08 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA + 5DR AUTO PAS CAFFE LATTE 4000 MILES.....	£8995
08 08 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA R 5DR AUTO PAS BLACK MET 2000 MILES.....	£9995
07 57 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5DR AUTO PAS CAFFE LATTE 4000 MILES.....	£8995
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 5000 MILES.....	£7495
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06 56 NISSAN MICRA SVE 3DR AUTO PAS INFERNO RED 23000 MILES.....	£6995
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07 07 VW POLO 1-4 S 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C MET GREY 7000 MILES.....	£8995
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06 56 VW GOLF 1-6 SE 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C GREY METALLIC 10000 MILES.....	£10995
05 55 VW POLO 1-4 S 5DR AUTO PAS SILVER JUST 10000 MILES.....	£7495
04 04 VW LUPO 1-4 E 3DR AUTO PAS SILVER JUST 4000 MILES.....	£4995

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08 08 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE SILVER 12000 MILES.....	£8495
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ESTATE METRO BLUE 14000 MILES.....	£8995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5DR SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£7995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR 5DR TURQUOISE UNDER 300 MILES.....	£8495
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN LIFE AUTO PAS ESTATE MET GREY 7000 MILES.....	£8495
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR TURBOURQUE 15000 MILES.....	£7495
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE PANACOTTA 6000 MILES.....	£7495
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR METRO BLUE 14000 MILES.....	£7495
07 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C STAR SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£6495
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06 56 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5DR SILVER 12000 MILES.....	£7995
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06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR ULTRA BLUE 12000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR ULTRA BLUE 20000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 CLUB AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR BLACK 12000 MILES.....	£6695
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C METRO BLUE 17000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C SILVER LIGHTNING 8000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C METRO BLUE 6000 MILES.....	£6495
06 55 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS HATCH SILVER 3000 MILES.....	£7495
03 53 ASTRA 1-6 CLUB AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR BLUE 2000 MILES.....	£4695

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03 03 ROVER 45 IMPRESSION AUTO PAS AIR/C NIGHTFIRE RED 43000 MILES.....	£2995
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08 08 CHEVROLET KALOS 1-4 SX 5DR AUTO PAS POLY SILVER 10000 MILES.....	£5495
06 56 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5DR SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£5995
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07 57 ZAFIRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS METRO BLUE 7 SEATER 10000 MILES.....	£8495
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06 56 ZAFIRA 2-2 LIFE AUTO PAS BLACK 7 SEATER 17000 MILES.....	£8995
06 56 MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR STAR SILVER 3000 MILES.....	£7995
06 56 MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR SILVER LIGHTNING 5000 MILES.....	£7995
06 56 MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR BLUE 10000 MILES.....	£7995

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08 08 GRAND SCENIC 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS BLACK 2000 MILES.....	£11995
08 08 RENAULT CLIO 1-6 EXPRESSION 3DR AUTO PAS 2000 MILES.....	£8995
08 08 SCENIC 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS AIR BLACK 7000 MILES.....	£10995
08 SCENIC 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS AIR GREY 10000 MILES.....	£10995
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07 57 SCENIC 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS AIR GOLD 16000 MILES.....	£8995
07 07 SCENIC PRIVILEGE 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C GOLD 10000 MILES.....	£8495
07 07 MEGANE 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 16000 MILES.....	£7995
07 07 KANGOO EXPRESSION 1-6 AUTO PAS MET RED 17000 MILES.....	£6995
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06 06 SCENIC PRIVILEGE 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE 17000 MILES.....	£7995
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06 06 SCENIC DYNAMIC 16 AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C RED MET 14000 MILES.....	£7495
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Typical finance example for New Corsa Active 1.0i 12v A/C 3dr as advertised, based on 10,000 miles per annum. If 50,000 miles is exceeded, additional mileage charges will apply. £20 inclusive of Government and WJ King Scrappage Allowance.

CASH PRICE	DEPOSIT	AMOUNT FINANCED	1ST PAYMENT	59 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	1 FINAL PAYMENT	INTEREST CHARGES	TOTAL CHARGE FOR CREDIT	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	9.8% TYPICAL APR †
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VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data - Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): Vauxhall Range: urban 51.4 (5.5) - 12.7 (22.3), extra-urban 74.3 (3.8) - 25.4 (11.1), combined 62.8 (4.5) - 18.6 (15.2), CO2 Emissions 119 - 364 g/km.

Some models shown have optional metallic paint available at an additional cost of £395. Savings shown are against MRRP at time of publication. Prices shown are available on selected WJ King stock only, whilst stocks last and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. *Government Scrappage Allowance and WJ King Allowance is dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government Scrappage incentive criteria. The Government Scrappage payment applies to vehicles registered on or before 31.03.09 when traded in against a new car subject to conditions. All offers available to private individuals. Offers apply to selected new vehicles ordered between 12.10.08 and 30.11.09, and are subsequently registered before 30.11.09 and are subject to status, eligibility, terms and conditions. † Finance subject to status, over 18s only, a guarantee may be required. Written quotations available on request. Finance supplied by Alpha Financial Services, Europa House, Bartley Way, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9UP. ‡ Free insurance offer is underwritten by Prudent Insurance PLC. Offer applies to private individuals (excluding Driving Schools). Corsa 500 drivers must be aged between 19-60. Drivers must have held a full UK/EEA Driving License for at least two years. A compulsory excess of £250 will apply. Please note additional excesses do apply in respect of young drivers and modifications. †† To qualify for Zafira Loyalty allowance of £1500 you must currently own a Zafira (model for a minimum of 90 days). Your current Zafira does not need to be part exchanged to claim discount. Terms and conditions apply. A £39 inc. VAT admin fee will be added to all vehicle purchases, this includes £20 worth of fuel. WJ King reserves the right to withdraw any offer at any time. Please note, models portrayed are for illustration purposes only and may not represent actual model. Telephone calls may be recorded for training purposes. £602.

FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Matthew Beech



Gloves off as Corsa heats supermini war

Vauxhall has highlighted a powertrain upgrade to its Corsa supermini with a near-80mpg average for the greenest version.

The revised Corsa ecoFLEX has a 76.3mpg combined cycle figure, putting it on par with its Ford Fiesta ECONetic arch rival.

It also contributes to a 13.2 per cent better economy average and lower CO2 emissions across the Corsa range - five of six engines qualify for the lowest road tax brackets of zero, £35 or £120 a year.

Significantly, while the diesels are still greenest, improved economy and power on Corsa petrol models is more impressive.

The 65PS (64bhp) 1.0-litre is now 5PS more powerful yet emits just 117g of CO2, dropping two road tax bands - owners now pay £35 per year instead of £120 and none at all when new bandings arrive next April.

Vauxhall has also revised the steering and suspension, to claim improved ride and control characteristics.

And tweaks to specifications have added an intriguing new feature: a heated leather steering wheel for the winter, plus heated seats - standard on the Corsa SE and a £210 option on lesser models.

BMW launches generation six of its highly successful 5-Series next March, priced from £27,555.

The smaller 3-Series might be the German marque's biggest seller, but it is the popular and profitable '5' that enables this comparatively small company to be a global big hitter.

The new car also signals a move away from BMW's love/hate styling of late; it is striking, but the sometimes awkward shut lines and motifs have gone - distinctive yet tasteful is the new way.

The 5-Series also comes fully into BMW's eco-friendly Efficient Dynamics fold by gaining auto Start-Stop to save fuel and emissions in urban congestion.

Cabin comfort is said to be high due to the longest wheelbase in its class and expect the 520d diesel to be top seller, with a potential average mpg in the mid-50s and class-leading CO2 emissions of just 132g/km with a road tax bill of just £120/year.

'Five' No6 due soon



VW takes the Highline even higher

VOLKSWAGEN'S Passat sits nicely between mainstream family rivals and the executive sector, but its upmarket appeal has been boosted by the new Highline Plus version.

It gains a chrome grille surround and louvres, Bluetooth telephone connectivity with touchscreen adaptor, as well as a VW sat-nav unit for an extra £750 more than the standard Highline, with prices starting at £20,515.



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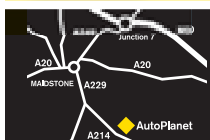


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by
STEVELOADER

HYUNDAI has hit the Santa Fe trail with new determination.

Despite higher car prices across most of the industry and declining interest in SUVs and 4x4s, the Korean has not only revised its impressive contender, but actually lowered the entry price.

When the refreshed version comes to the market on January 4, it will sell from around £100 less than before at £21,495, yet gains supercar pulling power and family hatchback fuel economy according to the manufacturer.

If this is upheld then it will underline how anyone failing to look beyond the humble badge on the bonnet is really missing out; the original Santa Fe was a decent workhorse, but its follow-up was sensational value and this hefty revision promises even more.

Simplified

Hyundai reckons it can now attack MPVs and estate cars on price and emissions yet still punch its weight as an SUV, with some off-road ability and the ability to seat up to seven.

Apart from cosmetic updates and the welcome replacement of tacky wood finishes inside with carbon black trimming, the car also comes with an aux/USB connection with full iPod control.

The range has been simplified to one engine and just two models comprising entry-level Style and higher spec Premium, with standard kit including alloys, reversing sensors, electronic stability control and air conditioning.

But it is the new 2.2-litre diesel that will do most talking with 2,199cc and 194bhp – a 26 per cent power gain from its predecessor of the same capacity.

It will hit 62mpg in 9.8 seconds – some

Santa Fe hits comeback trail



sporting hatchbacks would be happy with that – yet should average around 40mpg to challenge equivalent Vauxhall Zafira and Ford Galaxy seven-seat MPV rivals.

Economy is helped by a BMW-style alternator manager that takes it off-line to conserve engine power when the battery does not need charging.

Keep dry with our good flood guide

WITH more flooding predicted, there is sound advice from the IAM (Institute of Advanced Motorists).

IAM chief examiner, Peter Rodger, said: "If the journey is unavoidable, motorists should take extra precautions when dealing with severe surface conditions."

"Torrential rain brings with it visibility problems as the car mists up in seconds."

The Institute's key points when driving in flood conditions:

- Don't go in if the water's obviously too deep or flowing too quickly. Consider an alternative route.

- If you have to drive through water try to drive in the highest section of the road and don't set off if a vehicle is travelling in the opposite direction. Leave time and space for each other, so you don't swamp other drivers.

- Drive only fast enough to create a small bow wave in front of the vehicle - driving at speed may be dangerous to other vehicles or pedestrians.

- Keep going once you have started. Make sure you have a clear run, put the car into first gear, keep the revs high and set off. Don't go in if you can't see a way out on the other side.

- Do not take your foot even slightly off the accelerator, as this will allow water to travel up the exhaust pipe. As you go through the water, slip the clutch if you can. After you come out, dry brakes gently before you need them – the best way is to lightly apply the brake as you drive along for a few seconds.

- At the other side, keep moving and continue to rev the engine to clear any water from the exhaust.

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04 04 IVECO CARGO 75E17
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26ft platform day cab, 133,600km

04 04 Iveco Cargo 75E17

14ft tipper day cab, 77,600 km

05 05 Iveco Cargo 75E17

20ft platform day cab, 149,000km

06 06 Iveco Cargo 75E17

20ft sleeper box, rear roller shutter, 194,080km

08 58 Iveco Cargo 75E16

20ft box tuckaway t/lift, 12,968km

07 07 Iveco Cargo 75E17

20ft box column t/lift, 70,000km

06 56 Iveco Cargo 75E17

20ft box tuckaway t/lift, 70,893km

VANS

06 56 Iveco Daily 35S12 Van XLWB

3950 w/base, 35,669 miles

07 07 Iveco Daily 35S12 Van LWB

3300 w/base, 35,662 miles

05 05 Iveco Daily 35S12 Van LWB

3300 w/base, 59,000 miles

07 07 Iveco Daily 35S12 Van LWB

3300 w/base, 50,661 miles

04 54 Iveco Daily 35S12 Van XLWB

3950 w/base, 37,500 miles

08 08 Fiat Ducato 30 Van SWB

100MJT 2.2lt, 24,037 miles

07 07 Fiat Ducato 30 Van SWB

100MJT 2.2lt, 19,418 miles

09 58 Fiat Ducato 35 Van LWB

120MJT H/R, 400 miles

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07 56 Fiat Scudo 1.9D Van LWB

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06 06 Fiat Doblo SX Van 1.9MJT

twin side load doors,

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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Captiva 2.0 VCDi LT 5-seat: Urban - 31.7 (8.9), Extra-urban - 42.8 (6.6), Combined - 38.2 (7.4). CO₂ emissions 197g/km. Cruze 1.6 LS 4dr: Urban - 31.4 (9.0), Extra-urban - 51.4 (5.5), Combined - 41.5 (6.8). CO₂ emissions 159g/km. Epica 2.0 VCDi LS 4dr: Urban - 37.7 (7.5), Extra-urban - 53.3 (5.3), Combined - 46.3 (6.1). CO₂ emissions 169g/km.

Vehicles shown feature metallic paint available at extra cost of £400. 3 years/30,000 miles full service package at an optional cost (Cruze £249, Epica and Captiva £349). Available at participating retailers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Savings against current man. rec. price at time of publication and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 31st December 2009. Prices correct at time of press. (Chev82108)

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C2

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06 06 1.1i SX 3dr Hatch, Wicked Red, 18,677m.....£5,995

05 55 1.4 HDi Design Diesel 3dr Hatch, Poseidon Blue, 52,693m.....£5,995

C3

03 53 1.4i LX 5dr Hatch, Tuscan Blue, 60,569m.....£3,995

04 54 1.4i Desire 5dr Hatch, Special Edition, Arctic Steel, 18,600m.....£4,995

05 55 1.4i SX 5dr Hatch, Arctic Steel, 34,200m.....£5,995

05 05 1.4 HDi Exclusive 5dr Hatch, Oriental Blue, 39,645m.....£6,995

05 55 1.6 HDi SX 5dr Diesel Hatch, Tuscan Blue, 41,715m.....£7,295

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06 06 1.6i SX 5dr Hatch Auto, Arctic Steel, 15,859m.....£7,495

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08 08 1.6 HDi VTR Plus 5dr Diesel Hatch, Icelandic Grey, 21,650m.....£10,995

08 58 1.6 HDi VTR Plus 5dr, Diesel Hatch, Wicked Red 16,669m.....£11,495

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09 09 1.6 HDi VTR Plus 3dr Diesel Coupe, Polar White, 10,000m.....£12,495

08 58 1.6 HDi VTR Plus 5dr Diesel Hatch, Thirium Grey, 5,250m.....£12,495

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C4 Picasso

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C5

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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Aveo 1.2 S 3dr: Urban - 39.2 (7.2), Extra-urban - 61.4 (4.6), Combined - 51.4 (5.5). CO₂ emissions 132g/km. Matiz 0.8 S 5dr: Urban - 43.5 (6.5), Extra-urban - 68.9 (4.1), Combined - 56.5 (5.0). CO₂ emissions 119g/km.

Discount price of £4,395 relates to Matiz 0.8 S 5dr model only (for Aveo 1.2 S 3dr £5,695). Vehicles shown feature metallic paint available at extra cost (Matiz £325, Aveo £350). 3 years/30,000 miles full service package at an optional cost of £249. The savings are against current MRP and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 31st December 2009. Prices correct at time of press. At participating retailers only. *£2,000 Government Scrappage Allowance is dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government Scrappage incentive criteria. When traded in against a new car subject to conditions and whilst Government funding applies. The Government Scrappage payment applies to vehicles registered on or before 31.08.99 when traded in against a new vehicle subject to conditions. Offers apply to new vehicles ordered or registered between 01.10.09 and 31.12.09, and are subject to status, eligibility, terms and conditions. Extra savings provided by Chevrolet UK Ltd only. Cannot be used with any other offer. Available to private individuals and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other Sales categories are excluded. UK supplied vehicles only. Offer ends 31st December 2009. Excludes Isle of Man and Channel Islands. (Chev84204)

DrivingReview

by
STEVE LOADERCHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk**Audi A4**

AUDI has been the success story of the UK executive market lately, no doubt causing sleepless nights at BMW.

According to October's car registration figures, Audi still hasn't quite overtaken BMW as upmarket sector champ – BMW had sold 82,270 cars so far this year.

But VW's snob brand is nicely tucked in on the leader's shoulder with 79,563 cars registered in tough times – even Audi volumes are nearly 12 per cent down on last year.

By comparison, Mercedes-Benz registered 59,630 and the Big Three's most credible non-German rivals are Lexus (6,649) Jaguar (15,260) and Volvo (27,737) – even Mercedes outsells their combined totals.

Audi's rise is due largely to the A4, a model that has overturned conventional wisdom that compact executive cars have to be rear-wheel drive – the mantra of the diehard BMW 3-Series driver and the balanced layout adhered to by Mercedes-Benz and Lexus.

In response, Audi has made its front-driven



contender as good as it can be, while never resting on laurels and also offered it with the all-wheel drive Quattro system for drivers

who demand the full handling experience... or the chance to talk about it

The latest A4 arrived last year, almost anti-

climactically since its predecessor seemed to have so much gas in the tank; a point proved by moving the production line to Spain for



Perfect little number. The new Polo. From £9,435.

A combination of classic lines and subtle flair. Sporty yet elegant, practical yet stylish, the shape flows smoothly to give a satisfying sweep. Equally pleasing is our flexible range of finance options. We've included a finance example with low repayments in the table below. It should help to underline the more-dash-than-cash nature of our latest creation.

New Polo S 1.2 60 PS 3-door, 3-year, 10,000 miles per annum Solutions example.			
34 monthly payments of	£99.00	Amount of credit	£6,633.91
Deposit	£2,801.09	Total amount payable	£10,744.09
Acceptance fee*	£125.00	Option to purchase fee†	£60.00
Optional final payment	£4,392.00	Excess mileage (per mile)**	3.60p
Retail cash price	£9,435.00		

Typical 8.1% APR *Payable as first payment. †Payable within optional final payment. **Excess mileage is subject to the prevailing rate of VAT. Further charges may be payable if vehicle is returned. Retail sales only. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available to over 18s for registrations and deliveries before December 31st, 2009 (subject to availability). Volkswagen Finance, Freeport VWFS. Offer may be varied or withdrawn at anytime.

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repackaging as the rather fine Seat Exeo.

On the other hand, the new generation A4's big improvement is obvious; the old car was perennially slammed for cramped rear legroom. Audi's almost petulant response was a big stretch to the wheelbase of the latest car, allowing a huge cabin and fabulous space in the back. It also has the biggest boot in its class.

But this new A4 is now a big car – 4.72 metres long by 2.01 wide, compared to the rival BMW 3-Series (4.5 x 2.01), Mercedes-Benz C-Class (4.58 x 2.02) and Lexus IS (4.57 x 2.0).

Further proof of how the A4 has ballooned and of a general trend in the car industry comes from the dimensions of Audi's 1997-2004 A6 from the market sector above: 4.79 metres by 1.99 wide.

This suggests that the new A4 is not only scaring the competition, but may be cannibalising current A6 sales and not just because the saloon and its capacious Avant estate spin-off can do much of what its big sister can do.

For this is a truly fine car, so capable in all areas that it is virtually anodyne. Whatever your mood is, the A4 is so in tune that it slips into the background.

Our road test car was the bestselling A4 2.0 TDI, almost as much of a darling to company car user choosers as the ubiquitous BMW 320d.

In the lower output 120PS (118bhp) form as



tested, it is probably a tad underpowered for the scale of the A4 – there are 143 and 170PS versions – but the ability to average nearly 60mpg is not to be sneered at.

It benefits from a tidy six-speed gearshift, crisp steering and excellent grip and composure in the corners; ride quality is considerably better than the previous car; no doubt helped by the bigger stretch between front and back wheels.

The cabin has the material and ergonomic layout design quality that has made Audi the benchmark brand in its sector.

Needless to say, space and comfort for all is impressive too, although the middle rear seat passenger has to plant their feet awkwardly either side of the centre hump.

This accomplished all-rounder may be a hard car to love outright, but it really is hard to fault, too.

DrivingPortfolio

AUDI 2.0 TDI (120PS) SE SALOON £23,720

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★
Running costs	★★★
Reliability	★★★★
How green?	★★★★
Road tax	£120/year
Best rival	BMW 3-Series

TheVerdict



DON'T LIKE:
What's not to like?



NOT SURE:
Middle rear seat will say Audi has answered criticism of the old car's cramped rear space.



REALLY LIKE:
The A4's under-stated class and all-round brilliance.

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*Price shown is On The Road, is for Government Scrappage Scheme customers only and only applies to cars ordered and registered by 31st December 2009. These savings are only available to eligible customers who trade in a qualifying passenger car (M1) first registered in the UK on or before 29th February 2000 or a qualifying Light Commercial Vehicle not exceeding 3.5 tonnes (N1) first registered in the UK on or before 28th February 2002 against the purchase of a new Hyundai at a participating authorised UK Hyundai dealer during the Scheme period. Eligibility is subject to compliance with all requirements under the government's Scrappage Scheme. Visit www.hyundai.co.uk for full details and applicable terms and conditions or see your local participating dealer. Savings shown are against manufacturer's recommended On The Road price at the time of publication. For details refer to <http://www.hyundai.co.uk/newCars/i20/> or Hyundai's Price Guide dated November 2009 reference '1109 HB2729'. On The Road prices include VAT at 15% where applicable, delivery, vehicle first registration fee, number plates and 12 months' road fund licence. The On The Road Price of £9,355 for the i20 Style 1.4 hatchback in Sparkle Blue mica paint at £355 included, detailed above, is valid for vehicles ordered and registered between 1st October and 31st December 2009. Prices correct at time of publication. All vehicles are subject to availability. To the extent the saving offered exceeds the minimum £2,000 combined government/Hyundai contribution under the Scrappage Scheme's rules, the additional incentive may be varied or withdrawn at any time; please check www.hyundai.co.uk for details of current offers. The Hyundai Scrappage Scheme incentives cannot be used in conjunction with the Hyundai Affinity Programme or, unless otherwise stated, with any other offers. Scrappage Scheme is not applicable to the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands. Scrappage Scheme customers agree to the dealer supplying their personal data to the government for its use in the assessment of the Scheme. Warranty only available on new cars purchased in the UK and sourced from Hyundai Motor UK Limited through its authorised dealers. See your local dealer for full warranty terms and conditions.

Fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) for Hyundai i20 Style 1.4 (manual): Urban 37.2 (7.6), Extra Urban 56.5 (5.0) Combined 47.1 (6.0), CO₂ Emissions 142 g/km.

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0808 Skoda Fabia 3 TdI 1051 95Door Hatchback Finished In Titanium Metallic Grey With Black Interior With under 1000 miles	£13,565	£3,670	£9,895	
0959 Skoda Fabia Greenline 1.4 5Door Hatchback	£12,633	£1,838	£10,795	
Finished In Silver With Black Cloth Interior With under 1400 miles				
0959 Skoda Fabia Greenline 1.4 5Door Hatchback	£12,665	£1,470	£10,995	
Finished In With Grey Interior With under 1900 miles				
0959 Skoda Fabia Sport 16V 1.6 5Door Hatchback	£12,748	£1,753	£10,995	
Finished In Spirit Yellow With Black Interior With under 1800 miles				
0959 Skoda Roomster 216V 1.0 5A 1.6 Mpv	£13,470	£2,475	£10,995	
Finished In Blue With Grey Interior With under 600 miles				
0959 Skoda Roomster 216V 1.0 5A 1.6 Mpv	£13,348	£1,753	£11,495	
Finished In Blue With Black Interior With under 3000 miles				
0959 Skoda Roomster Scout TdI 1.9 Mpv	£15,283	£3,033	£12,250	
Finished In Blue With Black Interior With under 100 miles				
0959 Skoda Octavia S TdI 1.9 5Door Hatchback	£14,213	£1,418	£12,795	
Finished In White With Black Interior With under 100 miles				
0959 Skoda Octavia S TdI 1.9 5Door Estate	£14,995	£1,745	£13,250	
Finished In White With Grey Interior With under 2500 miles				
0959 Skoda Octavia Greenline TdI Cr 1.6 5Door Hatchback	£16,499	£2,249	£14,250	
Finished In Red With Black Interior With under 2200 miles				
0959 Skoda Octavia Elegance TdI PNA 1.2 5Door Estate	£20,108	£2,613	£17,495	
Finished In Green With Black Interior With under 1200 miles				
0959 Skoda Superb Se CtdI 2.0 Saloon	£20,243	£3,248	£16,995	
Finished In Red With Black Interior With under 2000 miles				
0959 Skoda Superb Elegance CtdI A 2.0 Saloon	£26,023	£4,028	£21,995	
Finished In Brown With Cream Interior With under 100 miles				
0959 Skoda Superb Elegance CtdI A 2.0 Saloon	£25,305	£3,025	£22,480	
Finished In Grey With Black Interior With under 2700 miles				

Skoda Fabia - Used Car & Demo Stock				
	List Price	SAVE	NOW	
0757 Skoda Fabia Ambiente 12V Htp 1.2 5Door Hatchback	£11,300	£1,505	£9,795	
Finished In Grey With Black Interior With under 2700 miles				
0808 Skoda Fabia 1.2 5Door Hatchback Finished In Grey With Black Interior With under 1300 miles	£12,633	£1,838	£10,795	
0757 Skoda Fabia Ambiente 12V Htp 1.2 5Door Hatchback	£11,300	£1,505	£9,795	
Finished In Grey With Black Interior With under 2700 miles				
0707 Skoda Fabia 2.1 6A 5Door Hatchback	£15,305	£3,025	£12,480	
Finished In Cappuccino Metallic Tan With Grey Cloth Interior With under 5000 miles				

Skoda Fabia - Used Car & Demo Stock				
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0859 Skoda Fabia 88Bhp 5Door Hatchback Finished In Silver With Grey Interior With under 1200 miles	£8,495		£8,495	
0808 Skoda Fabia 31.650 Door Hatchback Finished In With Grey Interior With under 1300 miles	£8,995		£8,995	
0757 Skoda Fabia 31.650 Door Hatchback Finished In Silver With Black Interior With under 900 miles	£8,995		£8,995	
0808 Skoda Fabia Sport 1.5 5Door Hatchback Finished In Silver With Black Interior With under 200 miles	£9,495		£9,495	
0959 Skoda Fabia 21.650 Door Estate Finished In Blue With Grey Interior With under 600 miles	£9,995		£9,995	
Skoda Roomster - Used Car & Demo Stock				
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0808 Skoda Roomster 216V 1.4 Mpv Finished In Flammecore Red With Black Interior With under 1200 miles	£8,595		£8,595	
0707 Skoda Roomster TdI 1051 95Mpv Finished In Flammecore Red With Grey Interior With under 1500 miles	£8,995		£8,995	
0808 Skoda Roomster 11.4 Mpv Finished In With Blue Interior With under 700 miles	£8,995		£8,995	
Skoda Octavia - Used Car & Demo Stock				
	List Price	SAVE	NOW	
0707 Skoda Octavia Ambiente TdI 1.9 5Door Hatchback	£8,995		£8,995	
Finished In Diamond Silver With Grey Interior With under 4600 miles				
0656 Skoda Octavia Vrs 5Door Hatchback Finished In Race Blue With Black Interior With under 4400 miles	£9,995		£9,995	
0808 Skoda 1.9 Octavia Ambiente TdI Auto 1.9 5Door Hatchback	£11,495		£11,495	
Finished In Grey With Black Interior With under 1300 miles				
0808 Skoda 1.9 Octavia Ambiente TdI Auto 1.9 5Door Hatchback	£11,495		£11,495	
Finished In Silver With Black Interior With under 1800 miles				
0859 Skoda Auto Octavia Ambiente TdI Auto 1.9 5Door Hatchback	£11,995		£11,995	
Finished In Silver With Black Interior With under 1800 miles				
0959 Skoda Octavia Elegance TdI Cr 1.6 Estate Finished In With Grey Interior With under 4200 miles	£14,995		£14,995	
0859 Skoda Octavia Vrs TdI Cr 2.0 5Door Hatchback Finished In Red With Black Interior With under 3400 miles	£15,995		£15,995	

Other Makes - Used Car Stock				
	List Price	SAVE	NOW	
99V Vauxhall Astra G Cab 1.4 5Door Hatchback Finished In Silver With Cloth Interior With under 3500 miles	£2,995		£2,995	
01V Peugeot Partner 600 Lx 1.4 5Door Finished In White With under 3000 miles	£2,995		£2,995	
0635 Peugeot 206 Verve Sw 1.4 5Door Finished In Black With Black Interior With under 3500 miles	£5,995		£5,995	
0404 Subaru Forester Xl Turbo 2.0 Estate Finished In Blue With Cloth Interior With under 5400 miles	£5,995		£5,995	
0635 Peugeot 205 Sport 1.6 5Door Hatchback Finished In Silver With Black Interior With under 2200 miles	£5,995		£5,995	
0707 Peugeot 207 1.0 5Door Hatchback Finished In Laser Red With Grey Cloth Interior With under 1500 miles	£5,995		£5,995	
0707 Peugeot 207 1.4 5Door Hatchback Finished In Silver With under 3700 miles	£6,400		£6,400	
0636 Volkswagen Polo 55i 1.6 5Door Hatchback Finished In Blue With Black Interior With under 980 miles	£6,995		£6,995	
0707 Vauxhall Meriva Vauxhall 1.6 Mpv Finished In Silver With Cloth Interior With under 3500 miles	£6,995		£6,995	
0808 Citroen Cx Rhythm 1.0 3Door Hatchback Finished In Scarlet Red With Grey Interior With under 11800 miles	£6,995		£6,995	
0404 Jaguar X-Type Se D 2.0 Saloon Finished In Silver With Leather Interior With under 3800 miles	£8,995		£8,995	

Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Skoda Range: Urban 19.2 (14.7) – 53.3 (5.3), Extra-urban 38.2 (7.4) – 83.1 (3.4), Combined 28.0 (10.1) 68.9 (4.1). CO2 emissions for the Skoda Range 109 – 235g/km.

***The £3,500 saving is dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government scrappage scheme criteria. Retail Sales only. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer ie Scrappage, Skoda Finance, Freeport Skoda Finance. The Government scrappage payment applies to vehicles registered on or before 31/03/2009 when traded - in against a new car, subject to terms and conditions. The scrappage contribution is dependent on your vehicle meeting the full Government scrappage incentive criteria and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Not available in conjunction with any other offer. Terms & conditions apply. All participating retailers only. Offer is subject to vehicle availability from participating retailers and may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Please see Caffyns Skoda for full VAT saving details. For terms and conditions, Finance subject to status.

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2004	SAAB 9-3 1.9Tid Linear, 4 Doors, Manual, Diesel, 47,000 miles, Metallic Steel Grey, ABS, Air conditioning, Alarm, Alloy wheels, Cloth seat trim, Full Electric Pack, Full Service History, Park distance control, Traction control, £7,495
2005 05	SAAB 9-3 1.9T Linear Sport, 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol, 63,277 miles, Metallic Grey, 2 Owners, Cruise control, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Multi function steering wheel, ABS, Cloth seat trim, Full Electric Pack, Reverse parking aid, Part Service History, Air conditioning, Climate Control, Park distance control £7,295
2002 52	SAAB 9-5 2.3HDT Aero, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol, 69,000 miles, Steel Grey, ABS, Alloy wheels, Full Electric Pack, Cruise control, Park distance control, Sports seats, Traction control, Climate control, In Car Entertainment, Warranty, Leather upholstery, Metallic paintwork, Tinted glass, £5,495
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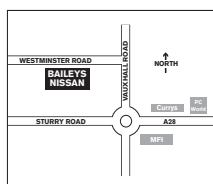


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* New cash prices shown include £2,000 Scrappage incentive. The Government Scrappage Scheme is available from 18/05/2009 until the Government funding is utilised or until 28/02/2010 (whichever is sooner). Trade in vehicles under the Government Scheme must have been registered on or before 29/02/2000. The keeper of a trade in vehicle should have a UK address shown on the V5C and have been the registered keeper of the trade in vehicle for at least 12 calendar months before the order date of the new vehicle. Also a trade in vehicle must have a current MOT certificate at any date of the new vehicle and must be under 3.5 tonnes in weight. Full Terms and Conditions apply (see your local Nissan dealership for details). Schemes available at participating Nissan dealers only. Schemes not available in conjunction with Motability or any other offers. Terms and Conditions subject to change without prior notice. Excludes Channel Islands / Isle of Man. All prices include £255 first registration fee and road fund licence. Model shots shown are for illustration purposes only. Information correct at time of going to press. Refer to dealer for exact specification. This advert supersedes any previously advertised offers. Models subject to availability. PIXO shown has optional metallic paint at £365 including 15% VAT. Micra shown has optional metallic paint at £395 including 15% VAT. Note shown has optional metallic paint at £395 including 15% VAT. Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd, The Rivers Office Park, Denham Way, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 9YS.

BRAVO, 1.4 Active Sport 5dr Hatch, rk59pgy, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels, trip computer, cruise control, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, isofix child seat anchor points, folding rear seats, 3x3 point rear seat belts, height adjustable drivers seat, front head restraints, front armrest, body coloured bumpers, lumbar support, cloth seat trim, immobiliser, rear headrests, silver metallic, 100 miles, £10995, Tradebridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TUNBRIDGE)

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C3, 1.1i Cool 5dr Hatch Special Edition, gl57vsa, ps, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, trip computer, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, isofix child seat anchor points, folding rear seats, service indicator, full size spare wheel, height adjustable drivers seat, steel wheels, front head restraints, audio remote control, 3x3 point rear seat belts, body coloured bumpers, rear wiper, cloth seat trim, immobiliser, rear headrests, grey, 10603 miles, £6444, Tunbridge Wells
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<p>DOBL0, 1.9 Multijet Dynamic 5dr [120] Diesel Estate, rv58jvf, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels, radio/cd, trip computer, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, folding rear seats, body coloured bumpers, service indicator, space saver spare wheel, lumbar support, immobiliser, front armrest, front head restraints, 3x3 point rear seat belts, rear wiper, cloth seat trim, height adjustable drivers seat, rear headrests, beige metallic, 17250 miles, £8995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)</p> <p>DOBL0, Active Hr, mt06zgd, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, power steering, electric front windows, trip computer, adjustable steering column, rear headrests, automatic electric windows, cloth upholstery, power steering, rear wiper, heated rear window, space saver spare wheel, service interval indicator, air recirculation system, side rubbing strips, height adjustable driver's seat, rear parcel shelf, height adjustable front headrests, driver's seat armrest, body coloured door mirrors, sliding side doors, seatbelt pretensioners with load limiters, 2nd row 60/40 splitfold, 5 x 3 point seatbelts, passenger side oddments compartment with lid on fascia, follow me home headlights, storage compartments under sunvisors, second row windows with sliding rear panel, blue, 13000 miles, £6495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)</p> <p>DOBL0, Bonhoffa Hot & Cold Catering Vending Truck, av05rwnj, bonhoffa conversion, hot cabins, cold cabinet, 3x access hatches, hand wash, led internal lighting, white, 29000 miles, £11995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)</p> <p>DOBL0, Jtd Dynamic Diesel, gk06wmg, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, radio, rear wash/wipe, power steering, abs, twin air bags, front fog lamps, cambelt changed, central locking, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, retractable headrests, height adjustable seat, folding rear seats, 76000 miles, £4999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)</p> <p>DOBL0 Cargo, mf56uxz, cloth upholstery, twin sliding doors, ply-lined, bulkhead, barn doors, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, air bag, white, 29000 miles, £4745, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)</p>	<p>DUCAT0, 35 Lwb 120 Multijet Refrigerated Chiller, wp56ofg, side load door, dual passenger seat, cd player, air bag, abs, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, grp lined, hubbard fridge, electric stanby available if required, over fifty fridge vans in stock, www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 20000 miles, £11995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)</p> <p>GRANDE Punto, na56uao, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, alloy wheels, trip computer, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, folding rear seats, service indicator, full size spare wheel, immobiliser, isofix child seat anchor points, rear armrest, 3x3 point rear seat belts, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper, cloth seat trim, front head restraints, new orleans blue metallic, 20000 miles, £6795, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)</p> <p>GRANDE Punto, mj56wae, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, alloy wheels, trip computer, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, folding rear seats, service indicator, full size spare wheel, immobiliser, isofix child seat anchor points, rear armrest, 3x3 point rear seat belts, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper, cloth seat trim, front head restraints, bolero red metallic, 14000 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)</p> <p>FORD</p> <p>C-MAX, 1.6TDCI ZETEC 110 5DR [DPF] 56 MPG, no06vrx, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, folding rear seats, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, park distance control, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, remote locking, side airbags, folding rear seats, traction control, insurance group:7, please call les bellchambers for further details and offers, grey, 15500 miles, £12990, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)</p> <p>C-MAX, 2.0TDCI Titanium 5dr, ef58cuc, climate control air conditioning, dvd touch screen sat nav, privacy glass, rear park assist, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, central locking, black, 3562 miles, £16990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)</p>	<p>C-MAX, 1.6TDCI ZETEC 5DR, wv58ezh, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric mirrors, electric windows, heated screen, metallic paintwork, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, privacy glass, remote central locking, insurance group:7, please contact alistair mcween, black, 22820 miles, £11990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)</p> <p>C-MAX, 1.6TDCI TITANIUM 110 5DR [DPF], ea58axk, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, electric mirrors, remote locking, colour coding body, insurance group:8, blue, 3741 miles, £14490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)</p> <p>C-MAX, 2.0 TITANIUM 5DR AUTO, mf09jxs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, remote locking, insurance group:12, please call les bellchambers for further details and offers, black, 6512 miles, £13990, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)</p> <p>C-MAX, 1.8TDCI ZETEC 5DR - BLUETOOTH + PARK ASSIST, gk58vlr, rear parking sensors, privacy glass, quickclear, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, child locks, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, park distance control, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, remote locking, side airbags, rear headrests, tinted glass, traction control, insurance group:7, please call les bellchambers for further details and offers, grey, 15500 miles, £12990, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)</p> <p>C-MAX, 2.0 TITANIUM 5DR BLUETOOTH+PARKING SENSORS+, ad07cuy, rear parking sensors, quickclear, auto headlights, auto wipers, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, 27195 miles, £9990, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)</p>	<p>C-MAX, 1.8TDCI ZETEC 5DR - PRIVACY, nl08yev, esp, privacy glass, quickclear, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, child locks, cloth upholstery, colour coding body, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, extra seats, folding rear seats, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, rear headrests, remote locking, seatback tables, tinted glass, traction control, insurance group:7, silver, 26668 miles, £9990, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)</p> <p>SUZUKI</p> <p>GRAND Vitara, august 2005, immaculate condition, mot until 31.08.2010 and tax until 31.03.2010 new baby forces sale, only one other lady owner, non smoker from new, silver, 25000 miles, £4995, Claire Roberts, Chatham, 07772 643249 or 01634 670169 (PRIVATE)</p> <p>CARRY, Jifly 'Style' Hot & Cold Catering Vending Truck, dx03hyn, large refrigerated display, large oven, handwash facilities, white, 37000 miles, £6995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)</p> <p>CARRY, Jifly 'Style' Hot & Cold Catering Vending Truck, yc06yox, large refrigerated display, large oven, handwash facilities, white, 15000 miles, £8995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)</p> <p>GRAND Vitara, h12dhs, alarm, remote central locking, privacy glass, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, centre armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, rear headrests, power steering, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, cd player, 15" alloys, 4x4, aluminium silver, 44000 miles, £4495, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)</p> <p>IGNIS, GL Wt-S 5dr, ef06tcy, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, adjustable steering column, power steering, isofix, multiple airbags, colour coded body, radio, cd player, electric front windows, electric mirrors, blue, 17000 miles, £5995, Bexleyheath, 01322 524 680 (TRADE)</p>	<p>JIMNY, 02 Jlx Soft Top, kg54 smx, central locking, front fog lamps, electric front windows, electric mirrors, cloth upholstery, twin air bags, abs, power steering, alloy wheels, 4x4, blue, 25100 miles, £3995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)</p> <p>SWIFT, GLX Vvts 5dr, ly55lke, abs, air bag, side air bags, immobiliser, central locking, air conditioning, electric front windows, trip computer, rear wash/wipe, front fog lamps, adjustable steering column, curtain airbags, automatic electric windows, radio, child locks, head restraints, cloth upholstery, steering wheel audio controls, isofix, 15" alloy wheels, folding exterior mirrors, pas, tinted glass, heated electricdoor mirrors, 2 speed wipers+intermittent wiper, heated rear window, folding rear seat, space saver spare wheel, lights on warning, digital clock, driver + passenger vanity mirrors, low fuel level warning light, front passenger seat undertray, glovebox, remote fuel cap release, height adjustable driver's seat, side impact protection beams, front door pockets, electric tailgate release, day/night rear view mirror, 3 point seatbelts on all seats, assist grips, deadlocks, towing hook, 6 speakers, passenger seat back pocket, rear parcel shelf, key in reminder, centre console storage, halogen headlights, coat hooks, accessory socket, high mounted stop lamp, head impact protection, body coloured bumpers, 3 cupholders, door ajar warning lamp, ashtray and cigar lighter, outside temperature display, keyless ignition, sunvisor with ticket holder, fuel consumption screen, body colour door mirrors and handles, 3 position interior light, driver seatbelt warning indicator, muffler extension, grey, 16000 miles, £7495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)</p> <p>VOLKSWAGEN</p> <p>PASSAT, Sport, 51, silver metallic, alarm, central locking, adjustable steering column, 4 x electric windows, electric mirrors, raining sensor, climate control, air condition, computer, 4 x air bags, abs, esp, alloy wheels, front and rear armrest, radio plus cd changer, service history, last service done at 112,000 miles, cambelt changed, mot, hpi clean, all documents present, drives superb, £1,950, silver, £1950, Derek Z, Kent, 07931671012 (PRIVATE)</p>	<p>PASSAT, Sport, 2001, silver metallic, alarm, central locking, adjustable steering column, 4 x electric windows, electric mirrors, raining sensor, climate control, air condition, computer, 4 x air bags, abs, esp, alloy wheels, front and rear armrest, radio plus cd changer, service history, last service done at 112,000 miles, cambelt changed, mot, hpi clean, all documents present, drives superb, £1,950, silver met, £1950, Derek Z, Kent, 07931671012 (PRIVATE)</p> <p>BORA, S, wj53kvc, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, height adjustable seat, rear armrest, adjustable steering column, stability control, trip computer, abs, child locks, side air bags, twin air bags, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, child locks, cd player, radio cassette, alloy wheels, visit our website for details of 50 similAR Cars, silver, 51000 miles, £4490, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)</p> <p>CRAFTER, 35 109td Mwb Hi-Roof Refrigerated Chiller, ek56fco, side load door, dual passenger seat, high roof, cd player, power steering, abs, air bag, remote central locking, immobiliser, electric windows, hubbard fridge, grp lined, electric standby available if required, over fifty fridge vans in stock, www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 28000 miles, £13995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)</p> <p>CRAFTER, 35 109bhp Lwb Hi-Roof Refrigerated Freezer Chiller, yk08uma, side load door, dual passenger seat, high roof, cd player, air bag, abs, traction control, remote central locking, electric windows, power steering, immobiliser, grp lined, gah equipment, electric standby available if required, over fifty fridge vans in stock, www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 24000 miles, £17595, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)</p> <p>GOLF, SE TDi 5dr, gv55yvf, remote central locking, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, height adjustable seat, folding rear seats, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, radio, alloy wheels, visit our website for details of 50 similAR Cars, grey blue metallic, 32000 miles, £8490, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)</p>	<p>GOLF, 1.6 S FSI 5dr just 26000 miles, ad55pbv, remote alarm, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, folding rear seats, rear headrests, power steering, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, always over 60 mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! fully faA regulated, metallic graphite blue, 26000 miles, £7995, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)</p> <p>GOLF, SE 5dr Auto, ij06 rwx, air conditioning, power steering, abs, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, electric windows, electric mirrors, cloth upholstery, sports seats, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio, twin air bags, curtain airbags, cruise control, trip computer, rain-sensing wipers, alloy wheels, grp, 25500 miles, £9995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)</p> <p>GOLF, SE TDi 5dr, ve06mfx, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, centre armrest, height adjustable seat, rear armrest, adjustable steering column, cruise control, power steering, stability control, trip computer, abs, child locks, 57000 miles, £8490, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)</p> <p>GOLF, S 5dr, aj56bve, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, folding rear seats, power steering, trip computer, abs, isofix, multiple airbags, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, radio, cd player, air conditioning, electric front windows, electric mirrors, black, 18000 miles, £10495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)</p> <p>LT, Jifly Hot & Cold Catering Truck, x806pdl, large refrigerated display, large oven, ambient section, handwash facilities, white, 0 miles, £5495, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)</p> <p>LUP0, E 3dr, dn04zgi, abs, air bag, immobiliser, head restraints, cloth upholstery, isofix, green tinted glass, pas, height adjustable steering wheel, locking fuel filler cap, 4 speakers, lights on warning, service interval indicator, coin tray, low fuel level warning light, black door mirrors, black door handles, heating/ventilation unit with 4 speed fan, 4000 miles, £4995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)</p>	<p>PASSAT, 1.9 TDI SE, bv07hku, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, centre armrest, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, cruise control, power steering, trip computer, abs, air bag, colour coded body, auto lighting, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, alarm, immobiliser, electric seats, heated seats, height adjustable seat, lumbar support, rear armrest, traction control, child locks, isofix, quick-clear screen, multiple airbags, electric handbrake, 16" alloys, blue, 73000 miles, £8000, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)</p> <p>PASSAT, TDi SE, ap07dtz, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, centre armrest, height adjustable seat, rear armrest, adjustable steering column, cruise control, power steering, stability control, trip computer, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, rear spoiler, rear wash/wipe, roof rails, electric handbrake, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, alloy wheels, visit our website for details of 50 similAR Cars, black, 60000 miles, £9990, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)</p> <p>PASSAT, 2.0 sel Tdi 170, 2007, silver metallic with black leather and alcantara, 97000 miles, £7950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)</p> <p>PASSAT, Sport TDi 130, px53 tya, remote central locking, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, head restraints, centre armrest, height adjustable seat, rear armrest, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, parking sensor, power steering, trip computer, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, climate control, multi-disc cd player, radio cassette, alloy wheels, grey, 53400 miles, £7495, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)</p> <p>PASSAT, 2.5 V6 Tdi, bg54bxb, immobiliser, remote central locking, alcantara leather, half leather, centre armrest, heated seats, height adjustable seat, rear armrest, folding rear seats, adjustable steering column, multi-function steering wheel, parking sensor, power steering, stability control, cruise control, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, roof rails, auto-dip rearview, automatic electric windows, electric mirrors, cd player, radio cassette, climate control, alloy wheels, 4x4, 70000 miles, £7690, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)</p>
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F1 surge right on the Button

HORNBY, the Kent-based toy and modelling brand, reckons Jensen Button's Formula 1 Championship victory delivered a flying start in the Christmas sales race, *writes Andy Rogers*.

The maker of the popular Scalextric race sets shrewdly acquired global rights to models featuring the first-time champion and his fledgling Brawn team, before they hit the F1 jackpot.

These victory models are expected to be big Christmas hits and Hornby is also benefiting from its products being featured in James May's Toy Stories – the Top Gear presenter's new hit series.

It will be some comfort to the Margate firm, which enjoyed a miserable Christmas in 2008 when recession-wary retailers slashed stocks of group brands, which include famous and nostalgic names: Hornby model trains, Scalextric, the recently revived Airfix model kits, Corgi die-cast models and Humbrol paints and modelling accessories.

The cutbacks contributed to a mixed reception from the City after latest half-year results showed pre-tax profits more than halved from £1.8 million to just £700,000, though sales rose



RIGHT FORMULA: Hornby reckon Scalextric and F1 champ Jensen Button, inset, make a winning team

five per cent to £25.5m against the same period in 2008.

Ironically, the flagship Hornby and Scalextric names – the latter being tipped to deliver on the Button-Brawn success –

were weaker performers, shown up by the newly-acquired Corgi brand.

But chief executive Frank Martin was upbeat: "Since Christmas 2008 we have been encouraged by the strong year-on-year sales performance in the independent, concessions and internet sales channels. These now represent 80 per cent of our UK domestic business."

He added that the brand was also banking on merchandise and collectibles linked to the 2012 London Olympics.

The company's fiscal stumble was attributed to other factors including foreign exchange rates and higher product costs from its primary supplier in China, following takeover by a venture capital fund.

Most group supplies come from China and India and Mr Martin said he now sees widening and guaranteeing supply – a problem said to have curbed potential European market growth – as his primary aim.

American sales have been boosted by the relative strength of the dollar against sterling and the £8.5m Corgi acquisition – which caused Hornby to hike borrowings from £1.3m to £11.8m – appears to have been a particularly good move for that market.

The Corgi acquisition includes lucrative rights to produce die-cast products based on all of the James Bond movies.



Rising stars of sub-sea cable world

THREE Kent businessmen sharing almost 100 years' experience in the sub-sea power cable industry have landed a top award for new businesses and entrepreneurs.

Tim Marsh, Pat Oakley and Colin Bagge, founders of Power Cable Services (PCS) in Gravesend, took the international prize in the 2009 HSBC Start-Up Stars Awards, regarded as the UK's premier showcase for the most promising start-up businesses and the entrepreneurs behind them. They also walked away with a cheque for £10,000.

The event, at London's InterContinental Hotel, was attended by Business Secretary Lord Mandelson and entrepreneurs including Duncan Bannatyne of BBC TV's Dragons' Den.

PCS was established to meet growing demand for specialist consultancy support, engineering services and products within sub-

sea power cabling and notably, the new offshore renewable energy sector.

Judges noted how they identified niche requirements and developed products and services to meet them.

One service enables sub-sea cable and umbilical manufacturers to produce interconnecting offshore devices, as well as the all-important shore connections and has been used on offshore wind farms.

From founding in October, 2006, PCS has grown sales from £300,000 in its first year to £1.4 million in 2008 and gained multinational clients – all achieved without external financing.

The company is a major exporter; 70 per cent

of turnover in 2008 was from customers in North America and Norway and many UK customers use PCS's services overseas.

Head of Business Banking for HSBC, Huw Morgan, said: "Over the last nine years the HSBC Start-Up Stars Awards have made a name for themselves by spotting exciting new businesses with a difference."

"PCS is an outstanding example and hopefully its success will be an inspiration to other start-up businesses."

Lord Mandelson said: "The HSBC Start-Up Stars represent the very best in British enterprise and are succeeding in sectors across our economy and markets across the world."



STAR TURN: From left, Huw Morgan of HSBC, Pat Oakley and Tim Marsh of PCS, and Noel Quinn of HSBC

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We must protect to survive

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

IT MAY be known as the Garden of England, but Kent's reputation as one of the nation's most beautiful counties is under almost constant attack.

For years developers seem to have paved over the countryside with ever-increasing vigour, as the cash created by new homes and businesses often overrides the ethical issues associated with building on green space.

Fortunately the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) exists to oppose such activity, and Protect Kent is the biggest of the charity's 200-plus branches.

Based in Smeeth, near Ashford, Protect Kent recently released a map showing 22 separate threats to the county – including the proposed Kent International Gateway (KIG), near Maidstone.

Chairman Richard Knox-Johnston said: "You only have to look at our countryside to understand just why it is so important we protect it, not just for us but for future generations."

"One of the things I did with this latest KIG inquiry was to look out over the North Downs from Thurnham Castle, and it's outstandingly beautiful. I wouldn't want to imagine what it would look like with buildings all over it."

"I think CPRE's former president Sir Max Hastings put it best when he said that if it wasn't for us, what the Government is planning to do would have already happened."

Protect Kent is a registered charity in its own right and has groups of volunteers in each district as well as specialist groups cov-



WELL DONE: Richard Knox-Johnston, left, of Protect Kent, receives his Charity Award from broadcaster Glen Thompsett during the KOS Media £1m Business Challenge Awards

ering issues such as transport and historic buildings. Its president is the noted author and illustrator Graham Clarke, while MPs Derek Wyatt and Damien Green are both vice-presidents.

Although the group's list of 22 threats includes such prominent proposals as a new coal-fired Kingsnorth power station and a lorry park at Aldington, Mr Knox-Johnston said the charity's biggest concern was the effects of climate change.

He said: "We've formed a climate change forum with people like the National Farmers' Union and the RSPB to look at issues such as shoreline erosion and land use."

"It's very important because what are we going to do if we build all over the place and there's nowhere left to grow food? We won't be

able to import it from Spain in future because they're going to have a major water problem."

"It's this sort of thing that might make people regret some of the decisions they are making today."

Protect Kent recently won the charity award in the £1 Million KOS Media Business Challenge, which included a voucher for £150,000 of advertising and PR products.

Mr Knox-Johnston said this would really boost the CPRE message: "When people find out about us and know what it is we do, they're very keen to help us."


But he added: "We haven't been well-known and this has been a problem. At this year's County Show I was asked if we bred ferrets, and I thought, 'Oh no, we've got a mountain to climb'."

£1 MILLION BUSINESS CHALLENGE



To view, search 'Protect' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



 **Richard Knox-Johnston talks about how winning the KOS Media charity award will help protect Kent's threatened landscapes**



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By **LIZ RULE**

Pharon Independent Financial Advisers Ltd

CONSUMER price inflation rose from an annual 1.1 per cent in September to 1.5 per cent in October. This increase marks the start of a trend likely to carry on into 2010. This rising trend may take the headline rate near or even higher than three per cent next year.

An increase to this level would necessitate an explanatory letter from Bank of England governor Mervyn King to the Chancellor for overshooting a target rate of two per cent.

The bank's monetary policy objective is not just to deliver price stability, but also support Government economic objectives, including those for growth and employment.

The Bank of England's remit is not just to achieve the lowest possible inflation rate; inflation below the target of two per cent is judged to be just as bad as inflation above the target.

If the target is missed by more than a percentage point on either side the governor must write to the Chancellor explaining why inflation has increased or fallen to such an extent and what the bank proposes to do to ensure inflation comes back to the target.

Petrol prices accounted for much of the rise between September and October, but there were also contributions from cars, flights, food, DVDs, computer games and telephones.


The RPI headline rate moved up from -1.4 per cent to -0.8 per cent between September and October and will rise much more sharply over the next six months as, unlike CPI, RPI reflects house price and mortgage interest rate increases.

Even assuming house price stability, RPI inflation is likely to reach about four per cent in 2010, with higher figures resulting in interest rate rises.

Now is the time to look at your deposits and make sure you are getting the best rate you can, or your savings will actually reduce in real terms over the next few months.

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Encouraging signs market has turned the corner at last

TWO years ago, investment funds were rushing to get out of commercial property.

It was a major sign of the economic catastrophe about to engulf the UK and, with hindsight, highlighted panic already seeping into some of the country's biggest and most trusted financial institutions.

Like the housing and mortgage markets, commercial property values and rents had gone from boom to bust in a spectacularly short time.

However, there are now signs of recovery. Two of the UK's biggest commercial landlords, British Land and Land Securities are saying that the two-year slump is over.

The firms, which own office blocks, shopping centres and retail parks have seen recent improvement in the value of their property portfolios and once huge losses are being stemmed. British Land's latest results show a pre-tax loss of just £113 million against one of £1.3 billion a year earlier.

Reports from the US market suggest it must wait another year before it enjoys such a turnaround.

Crucially, analysts predict that big players like British Land will now feel confident

By **ANDY ROGERS**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

enough to expand its portfolio, further boosting the market and confidence, while international investment is also starting to grow, no doubt helped by the weakness of the pound and a cheaper property market.

But the commercial market also shows signs of adapting and thriving in a new environment.

Our own business pages have featured reports recently on new and more flexible office developments, often from smaller but fast-moving operators, targeting a new breed of more locally-based entrepreneur or established concerns looking to downsize and control costs in more straitened times.

Instead of onerous letting conditions, which can deter fledgling businesses, such as big rents upfront and 'lock-ins' preventing an easy move or upsizing, the new landlord is also keen to please.

Rent-free deals for the first few months are not uncommon and Space Business Centres, which has a new site at Rochester, boasts of "easy-in, easy-out terms with just one month's commitment".



ONE ROOF: Basepoint's Folkestone Enterprise Centre is on the Shearway Business Park

Flexible deals are just part of the attraction. Buildings are also highly adaptable with 'plug n' play' facilities for internet, phone and other services and developments feature a range of units from office to light industrial, workshop to warehouse and multi-function units.

Up and downsizing on the same site, or even to another in the group, is also made easy.

One of the success stories has been Basepoint, which has 26 business centres across the UK and allows tenants as little as two weeks' notice if they decide to move.

The company has Kent locations at Northfleet, Chatham, Canterbury and Folkestone, with the latter recently winning the Service category at the KOS Media Business Challenge Awards.

Unusually, Basepoint is also the property portfolio of charity the ACT Foundation, which provides grants to the mentally and physical-

ly disabled. In its commercial guise, though, it aims "to build small to medium-sized business communities that add value to the areas they are in rather than simply locate small businesses under one roof".

Lorraine Grover, manager of the Folkestone site at Shearway Business Park, said: "We offer a real sense of community to our licensees, who range from start-up businesses to established medium-sized companies, providing them with support, regular centre events and ensuring that we respond to queries quickly and efficiently."

Gary Smith, MD for insurance application consultant ORIAC Solutions, said his growing business had needed to move within the centre three times, but added: "The transition between units was made painless thanks to Basepoint's flexible contract arrangements and the efficiency of their management team."

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Futuristic centre will house 800 businesses

HI-TECH office space funded by £7.3 million from the South East England Development Agency (Seeda) has opened with over a third of space already let to innovative firms.

Canterbury Innovation Centre is targeted at high-growth, new technology operations with academic expertise.

It offers office, studio and workshop spaces designed to support business start-ups and is ultimately expected to create 2,000 jobs and support 800 businesses.

The centre is managed by leading business centre specialist Basepoint and is the first building on the science park based on the University of Kent's Canterbury campus.

It has also set the highest environmental standards, with sustainable design elements including solar panels, rainwater harvesting, a biomass boiler, and a visually sensitive design tailored to the site.

Seeda chief executive Pam Alexander said: "We are proud that our £7.3m investment has produced an exemplary building to connect local universities to innovative, new, high-growth businesses.

"It will provide a superb hub in which technology-rich companies can establish, diversifying the business base in east Kent and benefiting from knowledge and skills transfer to enable them to go global fast."

Vice-chancellor of the University of Kent, Professor Julia Goodfellow, said: "The Innovation Centre is an integral part of the university's strategy to support the local econ-



HIGH POINT: The CIC building at UKK

omy and to encourage innovation and enterprise, making the region more attractive for graduates to stay and work locally."

Basepoint's centre manager, Jo Clark, said: "Although in its infancy, the centre is already attracting a variety of businesses that fit the criteria of innovation and technology.

"Within the first month of opening, 35 out of the 85 units available have already been occupied, a huge achievement considering the current economic climate.

"We look forward to developing the centre and creating an exciting new business community here."

See www.canterburyinnovationcentre.co.uk for more information.

Experts in

ABOUT half a million non-domestic premises currently contain some form of asbestos.

Yet, contrary to popular belief, asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) do not always need to be removed.

ACMs in good condition and not likely to be damaged or disturbed are sometimes best left in place and managed.

However, since May, 2004, people responsible for non-domestic premises built before 2000 must know about any ACM present there, its location, condition and how to manage it.

This requires each building to have an Asbestos Register and a management plan with risk assessment.

Major redevelopment on such buildings, such as moving walls or even demolition, obviously requires invasive surveys to reveal any hidden asbestos.

This may cause damage to the fabric of the building, but is obviously necessary and an accurate survey at the outset can save property owners thousands of pounds as, aside from legal implications, it may confirm that there is no asbestos present and therefore no management plan is required.

By **ANDY ROGERS**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

People carrying out work on premises must also ask to see the Asbestos Register, to ensure that anyone who might potentially disturb ACMs does not start work before confirming it is safe to do so.

Asbestos is believed to have appeared in more than 3,000 products and was used extensively as a building material in Great Britain from the 1950s through to the mid-1980s. It was still in use until the end of 1999, when a total ban was implemented.

From domestic properties to large industrial heating plants and cement works, confirming whether asbestos is present or not can only be determined by sampling. The situation could need anything from a single



sample to a full asbestos survey.

When a sample is taken, the location should be photographed and a data sheet completed to record the material type,

asbestos first



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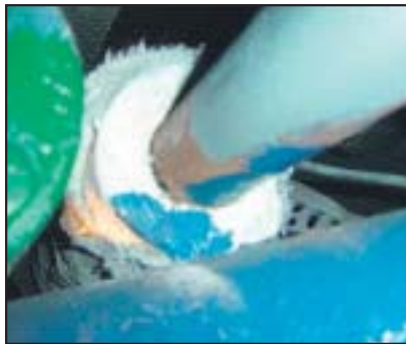
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asbestos management



extent, condition and risk. For example, the type of asbestos present such as Chrysotile (white), Amosite (brown) or Crocidolite (blue).

It should also confirm the type of product it is found in, such as asbestos insulation board, asbestos cement, etc.

This data is then transferred to the main survey document, including the position of the sample and the results of the laboratory analysis. Samples should be tested at a UKAS accredited (United Kingdom Accreditation Scheme) laboratory.

Who to turn to: Look for P402 certification when choosing an asbestos surveying company, which ensures compliance with MDHS100 for asbestos surveys and a long history of experience of working within the asbestos industry.

You could also check for a Trading Standards

approved specialist at either the Medway Fair Traders scheme or the Buy with Confidence scheme.

On-site seminars are available to assist duty holders with the Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2006 (CAWS). Retention of information concerning asbestos is generally more memorable by completing practical exercises.

With regard to removal work, the Asbestos Removal Contractors Association (ARCA) accredits reputable contractors and the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) licenses businesses for asbestos consultancy, removal and abatement work.

If you are a producer of asbestos waste, it is your responsibility to ensure your waste is disposed of correctly – it is graded as a fibrous or non-fibrous, depending on the type of product.

A full carrier's licence enables the asbestos removal company to safely and legally transport small amounts of waste to an approved toxic waste site, if a skip is not required.

Following removal work, you should expect to receive, as a minimum, a waste note and – if the work is notifiable to the HSE – an ASB5 notification and site clearance certificate of re-occupation.

Helpful sources:

- Find an ARCA member in Kent at www.arca.org.uk
- Review HSE regulation at www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos
- Further information at www.asbestosfirst.co.uk



SAFETY FIRST: Those responsible for non-domestic premises must know about any asbestos-containing material there, its location, condition and how to manage it

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Timeline

KOS Media sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 100 years

1909

100 YEARS AGO: A QUARTET of Kent teams reached the fourth qualifying round of the FA Cup, but they experienced drastically different fortunes.

New Brompton – now known as Gillingham – annihilated Oxford City 9-1 at Priestfield, having led 4-1 at half-time, earning a trip to the winners of the drawn Huddersfield v Rotherham tie.

Northfleet United were drawn against Croydon Common, which was apparently the name of a football team and not a general description of the area that still holds true today. The Cementers were held to a 2-2 draw and went out 3-1 after a replay.

Bromley were drawn away at Watford and slumped to an 8-1 defeat, outclassed for the whole 90 minutes, but Tunbridge Wells Rangers hosted Paulton Rovers from the West Country and won 2-0, Thair and Parsons getting the goals.

1959

50 YEARS AGO: GODFREY Evans (pictured) trousered £250 from an All-Star football game held for his benefit season at the Athletic Ground in Maidstone.



The former Kent and England wicket-keeper was part of a crowd of 4,000 present to see Gillingham beaten 5-1 by a team packed with ex-internationals, including the Charlton footballer and Kent cricketer Derek Ufton.

Arsenal's Vic Groves and Jimmy Bloomfield also turned out, although the one-sided nature of the game proved something of a disappointment for the fans, with Gillingham never really making a contest of it.

1984

25 YEARS AGO: THE late John Glover, a stalwart at Kent clubs including Maidstone, Welling and Faversham, began his association with the county when he relocated to Sevenoaks and joined Maidstone United from Nuneaton Borough for just £2,000.

Manager Bill Williams said it was, "the luckiest signing I've ever made". Glover, then 28, was widely acknowledged to have the ability to play in the top two divisions, but stayed semi-professional, maintaining a dual career in computers.

A stylish central defender, Glover is remembered by Wings fans as the man who hit the bar in an FA Cup third round tie with Blackburn Rovers in 1989, which Welling lost just 1-0. He died in 2006 of motor neurone disease at the tragically early age of 50.

Glover's arrival at Maidstone coincided with the departure of John Bartley to Welling for £8,000. "He is not welcome at this club anymore," Williams said in a bitter parting shot. "He has let us down... you can only put up with a player who doesn't want to play for you for so long."

If you have any fascinating stories from the above years gone by, email them to our sports editor at glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk

Gunners 'Invincible' on target for Whites

In-form striker revitalising career at Dover

By TOM HOWARD

HE LEARNED his trade from superstars Thierry Henry and Dennis Bergkamp, now Kent footballer Adam Birchall is hoping to reignite his career at Dover Athletic.

The 24-year-old striker from Maidstone, looked set for a promising career when he signed a three-year professional contract at Premier League giants Arsenal, but a serious foot injury spelled the end of his time with Arsene Wenger's side.

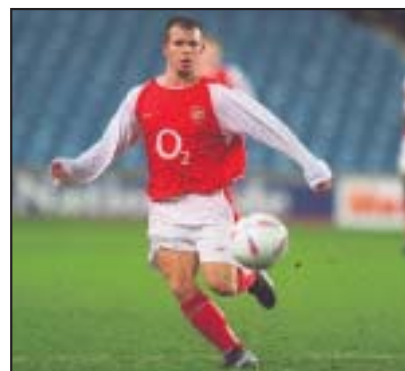
Birchall joined the Gunners at the age of 10 in 1994 and worked his way up the youth ranks, scoring 30 reserve goals for the club in the space of two years.

Unbeaten

He was rewarded with a professional deal in 2003 and was part of the Arsenal squad known as the 'Invincibles' after going the whole 2003-04 season unbeaten. However, when within touching distance of a first-team appearance, a foot ligament tear cut short his promising career.

He told Kent on Sunday: "My time at Arsenal was great and I will always look back on it fondly. I got to learn from and play with people like Thierry Henry and Dennis Bergkamp, which was a dream come true.

"It is every young boy's dream to play for one of the biggest teams in the country. Unfortunately I never really could find my form after my foot



UNLUCKY: Injury curtailed Adam Birchall's Arsenal career, but the striker has been in impressive form for Dover this season

injury and things never stay still at clubs like that, so I had to move on."

Permanent moves to Mansfield Town and Barnet followed, but the striker found it a struggle to rekindle his prolific youth team form at Arsenal. This summer Birchall was released by Barnet and dropped two divisions to join Blue Square South side Dover.

He said: "If I'm honest I really wasn't enjoying my football at Barnet and at the end of last season Andy Hessenthaler spoke to me about a move to Dover and persuaded me to join. I have to say it has been the right move as I am starting to find my love for the game again."

A string of impressive performances for the



Pictures: ARSENAL.COM and SIMON HARRIS

Whites this season has made Birchall third top scorer in the league, courtesy of eight goals in 11 league games.

Hessenthaler, the Dover manager, has been delighted with Birchall's performance this season and believes it won't be too long before he will return to the Football League.

He said: "Adam has been a class act. If he carries on like he has I can see him moving back up the ladder."

After All Blacks win, Cath targets World Cup



Picture: RUGBYMATTERS.NET

BELIEF: England skipper Catherine Spencer says the team can win the World Cup

CATHERINE Spencer believes England's victory over New Zealand at Twickenham has given the team the belief they can go on to win next year's World Cup, *writes Steve Tervet*.

The former Folkestone number eight captained her country to the 10-3 win last Saturday, which was the first time the world champions had been beaten since 2001, and Spencer, who scored the only try of the game, said the occasion would live long in the memory.

Confidence

"It was a fantastic day, one of those ones you remember for a long time," she said. "On my 50th cap too, I couldn't have dreamt of much more. We always thought we could beat New Zealand, but knowing we have done it is a great feeling and confidence is sky-high.

"However, they'll be stepping up their game now – they hadn't lost for eight years and that will have hurt them."

Having gone down to a 16-3 reverse when the sides met at Esher in Surrey a week earlier, England's win was the ideal tonic for rugby fans following the men's inevitable slump to defeat against the All Blacks.

Spencer, 30, leading her country out at Twickenham for the first time, said the 12,500 fans who stayed on to watch their match after the men's clash, had given the side a real boost, with the England performance just the advert the women's game needed.

She said: "It really was noticeable, we could hear the crowd getting behind us and I know there were more at home watching on TV so it was important we played some good rugby.

"As a team, we just wanted to go out and win, but looking at the wider picture it was good to put on a good show. We needed to present a good game ahead of the World Cup, to gain some momentum and build on the profile of women's rugby."

While Spencer let her rugby do the talking last weekend, she insists there is no guarantee of her place in the team, never mind as skipper, by the time the tournament comes round next August.

She said: "I've got to keep playing well, keep injury-free and get myself in the squad. We're setting out to win the World Cup and I believe we have the potential and can realise our dream."

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JUMP FOR JOY: (l-r) Pegasus gymnasts Bethan Cooper, Faye Zimmer and Maria Clark celebrate their silver medal

Gymnasts coming on in leaps and bounds

THE standard of gymnastics, which continues to rise in Great Britain, was underlined by a display of all-round quality at the Kent Floor & Vault Championships last weekend.

While Whitstable Gymnastics Club enjoyed a superb day, scooping gold medals in four of the 10 categories, every club involved in the event was victorious at least once, highlighting the quality throughout the county.

Teams of four, ranging from junior novices to seniors, took part in the competition,

hosted by Dover Gymnastics Club, who claimed victory in the novice boys junior and intermediate mixed junior categories.

Whitstable and Faversham were singled out for particular praise by Fef Griffin, director at Pegasus Gymnastics Club, who were successful in the novice mixed senior class.

She said: "Their coaches have prioritised general gymnastics as a primary discipline with great success. The quality of acrobatic skills, artistic expression and choreogra-

phy demonstrated by all participating clubs, underlines the progress made at every level of gymnastics in Great Britain in recent years."

Although each team contained four members, only the top three scores were carried forward. Each category was then open to a team of all girls or boys or a mixed team and this combination enabled clubs to include a high percentage of their members.

3G pitches look good on surface

By **FRED ATKINS**

A NEW third-generation pitch was unveiled in Kent this week, with the football world divided over whether they offer a glimpse of the future or have no place in the senior game.

Technology has evolved a long way since the notorious 'plastic' pitches used by the likes of QPR and Luton in the 1980s.

One of the new breed of artificial surfaces was opened, appropriately enough in a downpour, at Sandwich Technology School, courtesy of a £390,000 grant from the Football Foundation, which the Kent FA played a significant part in securing.

The Foundation's president, Lord Pendry, described it as a "wonderful pitch" and it was an immediate hit with young players. The school's under-11 captain, Charlie Lane, said: "I love it. We can use it all winter and we don't get muddy."

For that reason 3G pitches are attractive, especially as they would help fixture secretaries struggling to cope with the kind of weather that saw 20 of the 34 scheduled fixtures postponed in the West Kent Sunday League last weekend.

Yet if the case for artificial pitches at junior level is obvious, the jury is still out on their use in senior football.

Alan Walker, the Kent FA's director of coaching and co-manager at Maidstone United, experienced both the early



THUMBS UP: Youngsters enjoyed playing on the new 3G pitch at Sandwich Technology School



BAD OLD DAYS: The Astro turf pitch at Luton's Kenilworth Road ground

artificial pitches and heavy mud-laden quagmires during his playing career with Millwall and Gillingham.

Asked if he would rather play on a wet grass pitch, or a 3G surface, he qualified his answer.

"I was talking to [Morecambe boss and former Manchester United star] Sammy McIlroy about this the other day, and we both agreed the surfaces are far better now than when we were playing. You'd never know just how bad they were," he said. "So as a manager I would say grass all day long, but as a

chairman you've got to take into account the revenue you lose every time a game is cancelled."

That was backed up Walker's chairman at Maidstone, Paul Bowden-Brown, who wants to install a 3G pitch to generate money at the Stones' proposed new ground at Whatman Way.

"Even at Ashford [where Maidstone are currently groundsharing] where you've got an excellent drainage system, it's an all-round loss for the business," he said. "If you have a Saturday game called off it has to be replayed midweek, so you can cut your revenue in half."

"Football clubs won't survive on gate money alone, so it's a must. We could use it 24/7. A 3G pitch could be rented out all-day long."

Nat's next step



GB CALL-UP: Natalie Seymour
Picture: ADY KERRY

NATALIE Seymour will make another key step in her hockey development next month after receiving a first call-up to the Great Britain squad.

The inclusion in the 18-strong line-up for a tour to Argentina rounds off a dream year for the 23-year-old.

The Canterbury ladies defender began 2009 on the fringes of the England set-up, but has now amassed 26 caps and featured in the Champions Trophy and EuroHockey Nations Championship this summer.

A place on next month's Great Britain tour to Argentina marks another significant achievement for Seymour, who was naturally delighted with the call-up.

"It's a great honour and something I'm really chuffed about," she said. "I think it's a huge milestone, something I've been wanting to achieve. Every time I represent my country it's another important step, another opportunity to perform and put all the hard work into practice."

Seymour is one of eight uncapped players to make the trip, which will see Great Britain play five Test matches in seven days against Las Leonas, a side ranked second in the world.

They are the first games since the elite centralised training programme began in October, with Seymour training alongside the country's best players three times a week.

She said: "We're already seeing big gains and the potential that's there because of the time we're together. I'm certainly feeling really lucky to be involved at this point, the understanding you can create by training together all the time is really beneficial."

Seymour's club-mate Abi Walker is also in the squad, with the goalkeeper looking to add to her eight Great Britain caps. The 27-year-old will contest the jersey with uncapped Kirsty Mackay from Bowdon Hightown.

The first Test is on Saturday, December 12.

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Picture: ADY KERRY



CHAMPION: Italy's Matteo Manassero, at this year's Boys' Amateur Championship at Royal St George's and (below) Royal Cinque Ports

Links to stage 2013 Amateur Championship

TWO Kent golf courses are celebrating after they were selected to co-host the 118th Amateur Championship in 2013.

Royal Cinque Ports in Deal and Prince's in Sandwich will stage the tournament, which is among the most highly prized individual titles in the amateur game.

The links courses, both former hosts of the tournament, will share the stroke play qualifying stage before Royal Cinque Ports hosts the final match-play rounds.

The quality of the field is extremely high, as shown when the tournament last came to Kent in 2006. Among the golfers competing at Prince's and neighbouring Royal St George's was Rory McIlroy, now ranked number 10 in the world.

It marks a renaissance for Royal Cinque Ports after undergoing an expensive six-year redevelopment to bring the course back up to championship standard.

Ken Hannah, club secretary, said: "This vindicates our policy of investing in the course. We're all thrilled because it has brought it back to its rightful place among the championship venues."

The announcement is the latest good news for golf in east Kent. Both clubs are staging significant amateur tournaments before 2013, plus local final qualifying when The Open Championship comes to Royal St George's in 2011. The Tillman Trophy and Carris Trophy will be played at Royal Cinque Ports over the next two years, while Prince's has the McGregor Trophy next summer.

Prince's is being remodelled in preparation for the upcoming events and chief executive Michael Lovett is keen for the club to be seen to host championships.

He said: "There's a huge ambition to be involved in these tournaments on a regular basis. It's good for the profile of the club and it helps keep the course stay at the standard we want to achieve."



Rugby referee's bid to give cancer red card

Bone marrow match sought to help save Nick's life

By STEVE TERVET

A WELL-known Kent rugby referee is determined to win his battle with cancer and get back out amongst the pack on the county's playing fields.

Rugby has served Nick Buttle well over the years – his playing days extended beyond his 50th birthday and he has refereed from junior to international level.

However, having been diagnosed with leukaemia in May, Buttle has had to step back from the sport he loves, knowing only a suitable donor can provide him with the stem cell transplant he needs to beat the cancer.

Bone marrow

On December 10, Maidstone RFC will welcome anyone aged 18 to 40 to the club, as the Anthony Nolan Trust, responsible for finding hundreds of successful matches every year, looks to add to its bone marrow register.

While the chances of finding a match for Bearsted-based Buttle are slim, the possibility is there and he remains focused on a return to the rugby field, where he has enjoyed some of his finest moments.

Starting his playing career as a schoolboy in Lancashire, Buttle, 56, went on to spend nine years at Rochdale RFC before heading south to play for Cranleigh and Hastings & Bexhill.

While he never made it to the top of the game as a player, a handful of games for Saudi side Al Khobar were to pave the way for several high-profile officiating appearances when Buttle was selected as touch judge for the 2002 Dubai Sevens tournament.

He said: "It was a real honour to be involved at that level – I ran touch for Ireland v Wales and Australia v Argentina, which was when I was at my fittest."



FIGHT FOR LIFE: Nick Buttle needs a suitable donor to provide stem cell transplant he requires

"The next year I took charge of the British Army versus South Sea Islanders in the secondary tournament. It was great, I loved it and I refereed really well."

"I had a really good season in 2007-08, I was upgraded having been assessed and I felt great going into the new season. However, I refed a couple of games at the start of 2008-09 and I felt awful, I couldn't get around the park and it was really frustrating. I took some time away from the sport to get myself fit but I couldn't do it."

What Buttle first believed to be a simple lack of fitness was explained when his leukaemia was eventually diagnosed, and he soon embarked on a programme of chemotherapy which left him weak and confined to a hospital bed.

There was disappointing news when Buttle's brother flew over from Australia only

to be told he, too, was incompatible for a transplant. However, the Anthony Nolan Trust has access to registers worldwide and Buttle remains optimistic something positive will come from the situation.

He said: "The event at Maidstone is really to raise awareness and we may just find the right person to donate. The odds are stacked against it, but even if it's not right for me, it may be for someone else."

"Rugby is a huge part of my life, I've been watching the internationals on Sky while I haven't been able to get out and about and I definitely want to get out there and referee again."

• Maidstone RFC are encouraging people to visit The Mote ground on Willow Way between 5pm and 9pm on December 10 to join the donor register by providing a saliva sample.



PRIME POSITION: Chris Palmer says left-back is where he feels most comfortable for Gillingham

Picture: ADY KERRY

Palmer left back where he wants to be for Gills

CHRIS Palmer is optimistic a run of games at left-back has shown his value to the Gillingham side and shed his unwanted 'utility man' tag, **writes David Pritchard.**

The 26-year-old arrived from Walsall in the summer with the reputation of being able to play in four positions – full-back and wide midfielder on either flank – thanks to the rare attribute of being genuinely two-footed.

Gills boss Mark Stimson experimented in pre-season, playing Palmer in a variety of roles. But after starting nine of the last 16 games at left-back before yesterday's clash with Burton, the former Derby County man is happy to have a settled position.

He said: "Obviously if there are injuries by all means I'll play anywhere. With Barry Fuller being suspended last week I went and filled in at right-back, but I want to be stuck in one position."

"I'm enjoying it at left-back and am getting pushed all the time by John Nutter. It's nice to have that competitiveness and there's no bad feeling between us."

Although Palmer joined the Gills looking to establish himself in midfield, he has not let playing in the back four diminish his attacking intentions.

At times he has played almost as a wing-back, no more so than in the dominant midweek win against Yeovil, when he spent much of the game in an advanced role.

"I'm more of an attacking full-back anyway, so it suits my attributes going forward and setting up goals. So long as I can get forward I'm happy and with Andy Barcham cutting inside it creates space for me. I take corners and free-kicks as well so there's no reason why I can't get involved going forward," he said. The performance on Tuesday particularly impressed Gills boss Mark Stimson, who has preferred Palmer in recent weeks to Nutter, a virtual ever-present last season.

He said: "[Palmer's] got the shirt back and he wants to keep it, you can see that in the way he's playing. That's what the boys have to do: play well and don't get left out. He's certainly doing that at the moment."



Conway joins race to take over Button

F1 seat up for grabs as Jenson joins McLaren

EXCLUSIVE

By **TOM HOWARD**

MIKE Conway could find himself in the frame for a surprise Formula One seat at world champions Mercedes Grand Prix, formerly Brawn GP, if he impresses in a test next week.

The 24-year-old driver from Sevenoaks received a shock call up this week and will now take part in a three-day test with Ross Brawn's squad at Spain's Jerez circuit.

An impressive display could put him in

contention for the vacant race seat left by world champion Jenson Button.

Since winning the world title, Brawn have been bought by Mercedes and both Button and Rubens Barrichello have left.

The team confirmed highly rated German Nico Rosberg will drive for them in 2010, but are yet to confirm a second driver, leaving a potential opening for Conway.

Test

He told this newspaper: "I've been working on my IndyCar plans to stay in the series for next season, but this has certainly thrown a spanner in the works."

"I am still going to carry on with my plans, but we will have to see how well the test goes and decide from there. It would

be amazing to get the second seat, but there is a long way to go."

Having raced in the IndyCar Series in the USA, Conway, who spent two years as part of Mercedes GP's young driver programme when the team was owned by Honda, thought his Formula One chances were over.

He said: "I was shocked to hear from the team and for them to give me a test in a world championship-winning car. It is every driver's dream to drive a race-winning Formula One car. It is great the team have still kept me in mind after the work I did for them in the past."

Conway's three-day test begins on Tuesday where he will be joined by Japanese Formula 3 champion Marcus Ericsson.



HOT SEAT: F1 test driver Gary Paffett

Paffett hoping to pass test to retain F1 role

KENT driver Gary Paffett is excited at the prospect of working alongside Formula One champions Jenson Button and Lewis Hamilton as he waits to see if he is retained as McLaren Mercedes' test driver for 2010.

The 28-year-old racer has been a test driver for one of Formula One's top teams since 2006, and with McLaren announcing an exciting driver line-up for 2010, Paffett is keen to complete an all-British team.

The Bromley-born driver is yet to be confirmed as a test driver at the Woking-based team for next season, but the chance to work alongside new world champion Button and former title holder Hamilton, is an opportunity too good to turn down. He also feels Button and Hamilton, who together with Paffett are graduates from Kent's Buckmore Park circuit, will work together without conflict next season.

Hype

He said: "Working with both Jenson and Lewis in an entirely British team will be a great opportunity. The hype that will be around the British Grand Prix being a completely British team is something I want to experience."

"It's difficult to say how the pair will work with each other. They are different types of drivers and they have both won the world championship, but I think they are professionals and will be fine."

Although looking forward to another year with McLaren, Paffett, who has been linked to F1 drives in the past, has revealed he is actively looking at his options with the 2010 grid welcoming four new teams.

He said: "I am looking at my options, but to be honest another year in the DTM championship seems to be the most likely. There are more Formula One teams in the paddock, but it is just as difficult to get drives. With manufacturers leaving, there are still as many drivers looking to earn deals."

As well as his testing role at McLaren, Paffett came agonisingly close to claiming his second DTM title this season.

Racing for AMG Mercedes, he won four of the 10 races, more than any other driver, but finished second in the championship behind winner Timo Scheider.

Aprilia confirm Camier signing



NEW CHALLENGE: Leon Camier's move to Aprilia's World Superbikes team has been completed

THE waiting is over for Leon Camier as Aprilia have confirmed he will join their World Superbike team for 2010.

The Kent rider was on the verge of securing the move last week, as exclusively revealed by Kent on Sunday, and on Thursday the Italian team named the British champion as their new signing.

The 23-year-old from Ashford, who cruised to the British title this year with a record breaking 19 wins from 26 races, will join up with Italian superbike veteran Max Biaggi in a two-rider line-up at Aprilia.

Camier beat off competition from several riders for the seat, including Shane Byrne, James Toseland and Alex DeAngelis.

He told MCN: "I'm really happy. It's a great ride and having ridden for the team at the last two rounds I know just how much potential we've got for 2010."

"The deal has taken a long time to be confirmed, but the reason for that was due to Piaggio [Aprilia's parent company]."

"All the guys at Aprilia wanted me to ride the bike, but ultimately the deal had to be signed off by Piaggio and now that has happened I can't wait to get out and ride the bike again."

Camier will complete a number of tests over the winter before the first race of the 2010 World series begins at Phillip Island, Australia, on February 28.

Send all your sports stories to
sports editor Glenn Pearson at
glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk
or call the sportsdesk on
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A 'fairytale' year ends with MBE for Edwards

COLLECTING an MBE at Buckingham Palace this week capped off a "fairytale" year for Kent and England captain Charlotte Edwards.

The KOS Media sports columnist was summoned to the palace on Tuesday where she was awarded the MBE by Princess Anne for services to cricket.

It's been a sensational calendar year for the 29-year-old who has lifted the ICC Women's World Cup, ICC Women's World Twenty20 and retained the coveted Ashes after a typically hard-fought series against Australia.

"It was a huge honour but not something I would have won had it not been for the rest of the team, but it is nice to get an individual accolade," a typically modest Edwards said.

"It was incredibly humbling experience being surrounded by people that fight for the country, and to think all I do is hit a

cricket ball around a field – it was an overwhelming experience."

Having mixed with the top sports stars and lunched at Downing Street with Gordon Brown in the past, the usually unflappable Kent skipper admitted she felt nervous at the palace without any of her team-mates around her.

Having forgotten she needed to curtsy in front of the Princess, Edwards says she was practising in the corridor minutes before going to collect her MBE.

"It was great for my family to share it with me and I've got it at home with me to show off to people when they come round, but I'll need to find somewhere safe to put it," she said.

Edwards returned last week from a tour to the Caribbean where an experimental England side lost both the Twenty20 and One-Day series against the West Indies.



HONoured: Proud England captain Charlotte Edwards with her MBE at Buckingham Palace
Picture: PA PHOTOS

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SHOCK AS KENT CHIEF RESIGNS

Clifford's chance in the hot seat as Millman steps down after 10 years at St Lawrence

EXCLUSIVE

By **GLENN PEARSON**

KENT will give acting chief executive Jamie Clifford a chance to prove he can do the job full-time after Paul Millman made a surprise exit this week.

Millman stepped down as the club's chief executive with immediate effect on Friday after having served 10 years at the St Lawrence Ground.

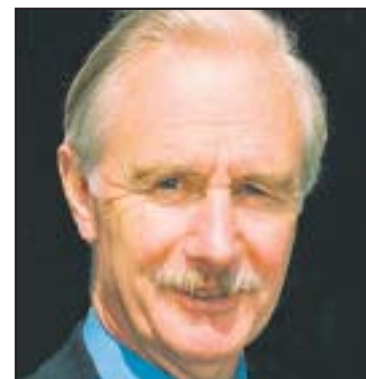
In a surprisingly short statement, the club said Millman had taken early retirement for personal reasons and that the county's director of business development, Jamie Clifford, is to assume the position of acting chief executive.

Personal reasons

Kent chairman George Kennedy insists the club had been aware of Millman's impending departure for some time and that the 63-year-old had left on good terms.

He told this newspaper: "I don't really want anyone coming out and saying 'were there sinister motives or was he fired', the statement was a true statement – he has left for personal reasons to take early retirement."

"We have been talking to Paul for some time about it, and I don't think it would have been appropriate to say publicly that



IN AND OUT: (l-r) Jamie Clifford replaces outgoing Kent chief exec Paul Millman

our chief executive was looking for early retirement, so whenever it was going to come, it was always going to be a surprise. "You can't trial these things to work out when is the best time to let him go, but we feel he has done a very good job – he masterminded plans for the redevelopment and that was his vision."

"It's been entirely amicable and at his request. He goes with our best wishes."

The chairman hopes to have a replacement for Millman in place before the start of the season in March next year, but hinted that 33-year-old Jamie Clifford will be given a chance to take the hot seat on a permanent basis.

"We have got Jamie Clifford in situ now.

He is a bright young man and I think he has done a pretty good job in business management. He's now got a crack at a couple of months of seeing whether he is up to the task of chief exec."

"The club will give him all the support he needs and it's up to him to prove he can do it now."

"Whether he is or not, we will still be looking outside to see who is available. If there is someone a lot better, then we'll have to look at that, if Jamie is up to scratch we'll have to look at that as well."

• Canterbury City Council have approved a loan for £4 million which means Kent's £8.2 million redevelopment will be going ahead.